OFFICIAL ORGAN

# THE UNITED FARMERS OF ALBERTA

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CALGARY, ALBERTA, MARCH 30, 1927

No. 10

# Budget Carries in Alberta Assembly Without Division

Staff Correspondence

The Georgian Bay Canal Project by E. J. GARLAND, M.P.

Dangers in the Duncan Proposals
by W. M. DAVIDSON

The Grain Trade and the Pool

Alberta Wheat Pool Section



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> Editor W. NORMAN SMITH

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### **EDITORIAL**

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### THE BUDGET DEBATE

We publish, in this issue, a report of the concluding stages of the debate on the Provincial Budget, which was adopted by the Legislative Assembly last week without division.

The criticism of members of the Liberal and Conservative parties and the views of the Labor group have been given as complete publicity in this paper, as our space permits, and we invite our readers to study the reports with care. They reveal very clearly the nature of the task with which the Government is grappling, and the substantial measure of success achieved.

The Government's critics have been unable to bring forward any constructive suggestions, in reference to the conduct of the financial business of the Province, and we believe that every party and group in the Assembly is in fact convinced that the affairs of this Province are being carried on with greater efficiency than at any time in our past history.

The speeches of the Labor members and of Mr. Duggan formed notable contributions to the debate. Mr. Duggan is a man of administrative ability who refused to give way to the party spirit or to succumb to the temptation to play the party game in the old way. In this he followed the worthy example of the Labor group, which is always constructive, and never assumes political poses.

The Alberta Legislature has not as yet entirely discarded I ne Alberta Legislature has not as yet entirely discarded the outworn practices and insincerities of partyism, but definite progress has been made, and every session shows an advance. The time is approaching when sham will be as intolerable in the Legislature as it is in the best business circles and in the conduct of the affairs of the best municipal bodies bodies.

Personal insinuations made by Captain Shaw in the budget debate provoked a spirited and caustic reply from C. L. Gibbs, one of the Labor members for Edmonton. Under the circumstances Mr. Gibbs' castigation of the Liberal leader was fully warranted. From Captain Shaw, insinuations of the character described in our staff correspondence, come with bad grace. The leader of the Liberal party at Edmonton is in the unenviable position of being a political leader who can be quoted against himself. As Mr. Gibbs accurately stated, Captain Shaw has condemned the old political parties in much severer terms than the Edmonton Labor member employed.

Mr. Gibbs read the following from an address by Captain Shaw in 1921:

Up to the time of the war we had in Canada two parties, each arrogating to themselves the right to govern. was a constant struggle between these parties, between the ins and the outs. The result has been that both parties have found it necessary to organize and create a machine for the purpose of maintaining and enforcing their particular desires. It is also true, to the shame of our country, that this party machine has required campaign contributions, usually secured we know not from where, but I presume from vested interests who were expecting some favor of some kind. The result has been that the standard of our political life has been lowered, and graft, corruption and electoral abuses of various kinds have followed in its wake.

### AN ECHO FROM THE DARK AGES

The sentencing of Ernest V. Sterry, of Toronto, to a term of imprisonment for blasphemous libel, and to deportation at the end of his term, has provoked a vigorous protest from the Rev. W. A. Cameron, a Toronto Baptist minister. Mr. Cameron disagrees utterly with the views which Mr. Sterry expressed, in the newspaper article which led to his imprisonment, but insists that the courts should be neutral in matters of religion. He demands the repeal of the law of blasphemous libel, which dates back to mediaeval times.

libel, which dates back to mediaeval times.

The protest is a courageous one, which reflects most creditably upon the Toronto minister. Three Canadian daily newspapers—the Ottawa Citizen, the Calgary Herald and the Manitoba Free Press, have honorably joined in the protest. As the Calgary Herald says: "Much blood has been spilled in the fight to gain for the people of British countries the inestimable boon of religious liberty. That liberty may not be narrowed in any sense; else it ceases to be liberty. The sun-worshipper under our charter of religious liberty has equal right with the evangelical Christian to worship or express his religious views. The Freethinker, the Buddhist, the Pagan—all have their equal rights."

It is to be hoped that immediate steps will be taken to repeal the law which some misguided Toronto people have recently invoked, and if possible to secure Mr. Sterry's release and the waiving of the deportation order. There are, we believe, many thousands of Canadians who have no sympathy with Mr. Sterry's views, but who must blush to know that

with Mr. Sterry's views, but who must blush to know that a man, no matter how crudely he may have expressed himself in the exercise of his right of free speech, is today in prison, in Canada, for violation of a law which is a relic of the dark ages. The case clearly calls for the exercise of executive

The Manitoba Free Press has conspicuously failed to join in the protest against the Georgian Bay Canal Bill, which is being promoted by the Sifton interests. The Free Press has rendered exceedingly able service to a number of good causes. In this instance, however, it is not disposed to join in the protest, daily growing in momentum, against what Mr. Garland accurately describes as "A Monstrous Attempt at Political Brigandage."

# Budget Carries Without Division After Full Dress Debate in Alberta Legislature --- Premier in Close Analysis of Figures Replies to Critics

Brownlee and Reid Show that Alberta's Controllable Exependiture has been Reduced by Over Million Dollars and Explain Very Clearly Nature of Alberta's Uncontrollable Commitments - Assembly Rejects Shaw's Resolution Calling for Commission to Arrange Boundaries of Constituencies

Staff Correspondence

# Gladiators Wrestle With Many Figures in the Budget Debate

Duggan, Conservative, Wins Approval By Honest Criticism—McPherson Answers Opposition Critics -McGillivray Speaks

### MONDAY'S SITTING

EDMONTON, March 21.—It was another day of rejoicing in Capua. At least the political gladiators thought that way as they poured forth volumes of words and stacks of figures to show on the one hand that the country was going to the demnition bow-wows or wherever to the demnition bow-wows or wherever it is that derelicts go, or contrariwise, that it was climbing the heights excelsior-like, to higher things. Two Conservatives, including the member from Calgary known to the press gallery as the "peerless leader," took part in the combat, and two members from the Government ranks. It is hoped sincerely that the remains of

is hoped, sincerely, that the remains of the budget will be interred tomorrow.

D. M. Duggan, Edmonton, (Conservative), continued the debate, in what O.

L. McPherson referred to as the first speech in five years in which the opposition had attempted honestly to analyse the had attempted honestly to analyse the position and suggest any remedy. All others had dealt solely in castigation of the Government ranks. Mr. Duggan gave the members something to think about, besides as to how to avoid long speeches. He had intended to talk on the industrialisation of the farm and had blueprints of what his intentions were, but having shown these prints to the Minister of Agriculture, the latter undertook to have lots of 'em circulated, and so it proved

Agriculture, the latter undertook to have lots of 'em circulated, and so it proved unnecessary for him to say any more.

So much for that. A. A. MacGillivray, Calgary, (Conservative leader), again addressed the Chamber in "strident tones and raucous voice." He began to cover up the tracks of the previous speaker (Mr. Duggan) with reference to liquor, lest the public might think that someone had opened his mouth and put his foot in it. "This party which I have the honor to represent will always be ready to bow to the will of the people of Alberta, whatever that may be." It was going to take more than economy alone, he thought. take more than economy alone, he thought, to bring out the silver lining of the econo-mic cloud in which the Province was enveloped.

# VALUE LARGELY LOST BECAUSE INAUDIBLE

O. L. McPherson, Minister of Public Works, followed with a wealth of valuable detail and information with regard to the expenditures of this and other Governments, which, according to talk around the

Our Staff Correspondence this week contains a very extensive outline of the concluding phases of the budget debate, including the detailed criticism of the opposition as well as the replies of U.F.A. members and of the Labor members of the Assembly. The opposition criticism was very effec-tively answered, members of the Government quoting detailed figures which form an effective reply both to the speeches of party critics and to certain editorials in the daily press.

Captain Shaw's resolution calling for a commission to set the boundaries of Alberta Provincial constituencies was negatived after a debate which formed the principal business of the Assembly on March 22nd.

Most of the business of the Assembly will be completed within the next few days, and an early prorogation is expected.

corridors, cleared up many things which had been made to look darker than justifiable. Unfortunately, Mr. McPherson spoke so low, or the poor reporter had already been subjected to such earsplitting noises, that this account must fail to do justice to his speech. (Why don't Ministers and Government supporters do as the Romans across the way, send manuscripts up to the press?) send manuscripts up to the press?)

Mr. McPherson was followed by Lorne Proudfoot, Acadia, who was moved by the freedom of the budget debate to tell the world and his wife once more of the glories of Acadia; the member introduced one more thought in the way of educa-tion, asking that the school of agriculture now vacant at Youngstown be opened so as to afford the youth of Acadia the opportunity of receiving a joint agricultural-high-school training. The suggestion was high-school training. The suggestion was striking. M. C. McKeen adjourned the

### BELIEVES PROBLEM IN SAFE HANDS

Mr. Duggan said he did not want to the one of those who offered what had been termed "nostrums" with regard to the railway situation. He felt because of his knowledge of those at the head of that Department that the problem was in reasonably safe hands. He advocated Mr. McGillivray's suggestion, appraisal and sale. and sale.

Industrialisation of the basic industry -agriculture—was another new slant on the possibilities of the Province. Mr. Duggan next dealt with what he termed the grievances of urban centres in regard to Provincial taxation. Since the war,

sources of taxation had been gobbled up by the larger units, while the smaller had theirs restricted. He thought that cities should have greater cash returns from Provincial taxation. There ought to be a complete survey of the field of taxation, Dominion, Provincial and municipal.

Mr. Duggan gave a raft of figures to show that grants were insufficient. Winding up, he found it easy, he said, to diagnose the disease, but difficult to find the remedy. Economy was the key note, but Mr. Duggan ridiculed the idea, in the present circumstances, of reducing revenue. He suggested that they should pare to the bone, and by reserving a million from collections, set aside a portion of that for the temporary relief of the cities and the balance added to the sinking fund. He also stressed immigration.

Mr. McGillivray complimented the Provincial Treasurer on his complacent presentation of the "sad, sad tale."

# McGILLIVRAY DILATES ON HOME MARKET

Once more Mr. McGillivray dilated upon the home market, and flourishing cities was his ideal of furnishing that market. After dealing with the information contained in the public accounts, he took up its sins of omission. For instance, he claimed you would find no indication there as to the disbursement of the sums spent in railway work. Even in the report dealing with the operation of the railways it would be found that while totals were given there was no itemized record of these expenditures. He spent quite a long time reading portions of the accounts and giving extracts from the railway report. "In order to be fair," he went on, "I attended the audit department with a view to being shown wherein I erred in the view that I had that there was no accounting in connection with the operation of the Government railways, and there I found my understanding verified. No accounting in any form had been placed before this Legis-lature." He held that the excuse of lack lature." He held that the excuse of lack of time did not apply, nor did the contention that the railways were separate corporations independent of the Government. These railways had been bought and paid for by the people and an accounting for the expenditure of every cent was

The first the expenditure of every tent was fit and proper.

Dealing with the oft repeated cry of "uncontrollable" expenditures, he thought it time for the Government to stand on its own feet. "The bald fact is that this Government has been faced with financial that it is not concluded. Government has been faced with financial responsibilities that it is not capable of coping with, and no matter how many alibis it may have, one fact shines through the fog of excuses, and that is that under this Government our public debt has increased at the stupendous average rate of \$5,400,000 a year."

### INVITING DROWNING MAN TO DRINK WATER

The suggestion of Mr. Shaw that we should reduce taxation in order to cope with expanding expenditures was likened by the leader to inviting a drowning man to have a drink of water, and the Minister of Agriculture was said to have sat down with his sorrow over Mr. Shaw still upon him so bad that he also had no remedy to offer. The leader then took a fling at J. E. Brownlee about the personality of attack. 'I have had the rare distinction of being elevated by the Premier from a place as a common little bear to being the much talked of missing link. One could not consider it a personal attack coming from the Premier, because he speaks with such unction and piety that when he is through one feels sanctified, if not absolved. I have only one regret—and like the Minister of Agriculture, I speak more in sorrow than in anger—it is this, that the Premier has never yet had the splendid courage to take his proper place in the debate before the first opposition speaker like other Premiers of Canada, before hurling his verbal brick bats, but waits until the end."

### MAKES ATTACK ON PRIORITIES

The leader, after endorsing the idea of Mr. Duggan and others on industrialisation, went on to attack priorities. "The first step towards restoring the confidence of the money lender is to remove the prohibition surrounding the personal covenant so that a promise to pay in Alberta is the same as a promise to pay in all the great money centres of the world."

"Then," Mr. McGillivray continued,

"Then," Mr. McGillivray continued, vehemently, "let us get away from the hypocrisy of calling hail insurance and such things "taxes" thereby giving them precedence over people who have invested their money in good faith. I ask this Government to remember that capital is a liquid thing and is not readily invested in places cursed with freak legislation, but that it will always flow to those centres where it may be assured of stability.

where it may be assured of stability of government and certainty of security."

Concluding, with voluminous quotations from the Encyclopedia Brittanica, and leading editorial lights in the cities of Calgary and Edmonton, the London Telegraph and Wilson's Weekly, Mr. McGillivray showed that Alberta has plenty of room for immigrants and that it would be a dandy fine thing to get lots of immigrants to take up that room. He wasn't fussy about them being British, if they would only work and help pay off the great burden of debt--sufficient for a million people at least. Then we would have the long-looked for home market, and the industrial centres and the farmer would go hand in hand to the foot of the Rockies and push the load up and up to the summit (if their foot didn't slip) and the nightmare of economic distress would pass away for ever and all people rise free and equal—or words to that effect.

### COMMENDS MODERATE SPEECH OF MR. DUGGAN

O. L. McPherson, Minister of Public Works, started out by making a comparison of the attitude and statements of the different opposition groups in the House. After stating that Mr. Shaw must have disappointed those who had looked forward to the introduction by the Liberal chief of new vision and new method in the Assembly by the reiteration of the same old story of desolation without contributing one constructive thought, the Minister commended very highly the

endeavor of the member from Edmonton, Mr. Duggan, and the method he had adopted—an able, moderate and reasonably fair presentation of the case and one which was a departure from the customary methods of the opposition for many years. He noted the difference between the member from Edmonton and his leader (Mr. McGillivray) who had, he said, on the hustings, also adopted the method of eastigation and rebuke.

Mr. Duggan; the Minister was pleased to see, had admitted that no Government in Canada had ever faced so serious a situation as had this Government in 1921, and he was further pleased at the fair admission that they had also reduced controllable expenditure and were making as great a provision for sinking fund as possible under existing conditions. The member from Edmonton had said that they were going in the right direction.

Mr. McPherson drew the attention of the members to the point that it was significant that the two Provinces with the highest per capita public debt were those which had railway commitments, namely British Columbia and Alberta. In addition to this there were the telephone and irrigation burdens, which had this Government, from the moment of assuming office, so tied up that it had been impossible to solve it. It was not fair to compare Province with Province. Saskatchewan farmers had a heavy tax for telephones which did not appear on any Government statement. We had a more complex situation in Alberta, as this Province was not so exclusively rural as Saskatchewan and unemployment and indigent problems, for instance, had been greater. "From the kind of speech made by the leader of the Liberals," said the Minister, "I did not expect him to make any allowance for these different factors, but I expected the member for Edmonton to maintain his attitude of fairness to the extent of considering them in his analysis."

The Minister contrasted the difference of revenues received by the Province of Saskatchewan with those of Alberta, from the Dominion Government on a basis of population, for grants in lieu of lands, subsidy, legislation and school lands grant, making a total difference in favor of Saskatchewan of \$311,975.00. He also pointed out the fallacy of per capita comparisons, quoting from "Canadian Taxation" to show that Provinces with small populations and large areas were bound to have a higher per capita on that account. Comparisons with the Dominion and with cities in regard to tax reduction were not of great value.

### HAVE ARRESTED RATE OF DEBT INCREASE

Mr. Shaw had deplored the overwhelming increase in the public debt of five million dollars a year under the present administration. Yet let us look at the rate of increase in the few years before, from \$33,654,576 in 1919, to \$57,463,675 in 1921, an increase of \$23,809,099, or an average of \$11,904,549 per year. Or, if we go back to 1911, ten years before this administration took office, when we had a debt of \$2,000,200 and note the increase to \$59,010,256 in the ten years. We have arrested the rate of increase considerably in spite of increased burdens, and the commitments already noted, besides having inaugurated the first highway programme this Province had ever known."

The Liberal leader had also advocated tax reductions. His amendment had deplored expanding revenues, said the Minister. Was this a sane view to take—in a young Province which was continually increasing in wealth production

as had this within the last few years? Was it sound to deplore expanding revenue under these conditions and with an increasing debt to care for? Mr. Shaw interrupted to ask the Minister if tax reduction was inconsistent with increasing revenue. He claimed that the Dominion Government had increased revenues and at the same time reduced taxation. Minister replied that that was possible under the system of indirect taxation employed by the Dominion in such forms as tariff, but what sources of income in the Province would react in similar manner, he countered. He then dealt with Mr. Shaw's contention that the city of Calgary had increased services and at the same time reduced taxation. He quoted from a report in which Commis-sioner Graves had said that economy in the matter of painting, repairs, and maintenance could be carried beyond the point of safety and prove disastrous, for which reason certain sums would have to be included in the Calgary estimates for that purpose. It had also been sug-gested that it was necessary to increase the mill rate around four mills.

# INCREASED EXPENDITURE AND INCREASED SERVICES

Mr. Shaw also had deplored rising expenditures. Expanding services in a growing Province demanded increased expenditures. But how did the last five years compare with previous years, he asked. In the ten years previous to this administration expenditures grew from \$3,037,618 in 1911 to \$10,605,155 in 1921, and in the next five year period from 1921 to 1926 the increase was only from \$10,605,155 to \$11,894,327 or a total of \$1,289,172, although the public debt charges had increased during the period by some \$2,000,000. In addition to straightening out the curve in expenditures compared with the past, they had instituted increased services for social and humanitarian purposes such as Keith hospital, mothers' allowances, roads, education, health generally and in other directions.

# EXPOSES ABSURDITY OF CALGARY PRESS CLAIMS

The Minister read a quotation from a Calgary paper under the caption—"Calgary Big Loser in Deal with Province," and a sub-heading to the effect that the city paid the Province almost a million in taxes, getting only a return of \$289,223.

"Can any city, can any rural munici-pality, can any individual seek a cash return for taxes levied by any country or Province in the world?" he asked. Does the newspaper suggest that Calgary expects to get that cash return and accept no responsibility for the maintenance of law and order, no responsibility for general education costs, no responsibility for health safeguarding, and the care of the mentally diseased, no responsibility for immigration and colonization, nor responsibility for roads which their people used and the railway burden. He thought Calgary must assume as much of the responsibility for the multiplicity of services as the other communities of the Province. "To put it briefly," he went on, "does not the city of Calgary rejoice in the maintenance of a civilised community or must a cash account be opened with each citizen and each community and the return of every dollar unimpaired be insisted upon?"

In face of all the facts Mr. Shaw's contention that there was no hope to the people of the Province had been a threadbare story, said Mr. McPherson, and his statements to the electorate last summer

were so obviously ridiculous that they met with the fate they deserved. The people of the Province appreciated the situation, and gave study to such things nowadays.

# ONLY EXPENDITURES FOR ROADS AND RAILWAYS

The Minister then analysed Mr. Duggan's proposals. The only solution offered was to call a halt in capital commitments. The only services on which this Government intended to make any capital expenditures were roads and railways. They could not reduce railways, so the question was—should they reduce roads? He was sure Mr. Duggan would not think so. The refunding referred to would work out all right as a matter of course without a change of Government, and Mr. Duggan had admitted that the railways were in safe hands. His suggestion regarding the reduction of interest on Provincial savings certificates was under consideration. The Minister's own solution was the reduction of the railroad burden and the sale of the roads if possible, together with the development of the mineral resources of the Province. The Minister reminded Mr. Duggan that the confiscation of homes or land had not been confined to Edmonton, but this regrettable situation had been general throughout the country.

The charge had been made by a Calgary paper that the Province of Saskatchewan would spend more money than Alberta on highways, using liquor profits for that purpose. Mr. McPherson quoted from the editorial as follows:

How is it possible for Saskatchewan to do the many things it does with less financial burden to the people than the corresponding service cost in Alberta? Is there any other answer to this question than this—the members of the Saskatchewan Government have a higher sense of their obligations in dealing with tax money as trust money and that in using their revenues they display sounder business ability than we possess in the Government of Alberta?

The Minister gave comparative figures. Saskatchewan spent on roads and bridges \$900,000 and on steel bridges and highways \$1,831,500, with administration costs of \$36,220; a total of \$1,867,720 in 1926. He did not have their estimates for 1927. This year Alberta would spend: Highways, \$1,000,000; market roads, \$650,000; bridges, \$500,000; maintenance of highways, \$200,000; bridges, \$60,000; a total of \$2,410,000, or \$542,280 more than Saskatchewan's expenditures of 1926.

After giving data of great value in connection with the policies of the Highways Department which will be dealt with later in this paper, Mr. McPherson went on to say that there was a widespread impression that the Department did not spend as much as they received in licenses and gasoline taxes. He gave figures showing that they spent three times as much as received. These licenses had netted \$1,520,468 last year, and the department had spent \$4,030,000. Mr. Shaw had contended that main highway expenditure this year in spite of increased gas taxes, would be \$600,000 less than last year. The fact was it would only be \$169,000 less, as last year they had earned the Dominion Government subvention of \$505,613; while this year they would earn only \$290,000, which accounted for part of the difference, and they were spending \$150,000 more on market roads, so that the reduction was a Dominion one, not Provincial. The



Lorne Proudfoot, M.L.A.

Minister concluded with an appeal for support of this Government's non-sectional, balanced program of road construction and maintenance.

# PROUDFOOT ON NEEDS OF ACADIA

Lorne Proudfoot, Acadia (U.F.A.), participating in the debate, discussed proposals for the re-establishment of the district north of the Red Deer and the provision of agricultural and high school training for Acadia, and other parts of the Province, at the Youngstown school of agriculture

of agriculture.

The people who remained in the territory mentioned had become convinced that straight grain growing would have to give way to a system of mixed farming, and in order to do this effectively, in addition to the growing of fodder crops such as clover, they would require access to a certain amount of leased land for grazing purposes. Provision would have to be made, therefore, for the establishment of community settlements located on the very best parts of the land, each settler being provided with at least a section of land as a home place and the right to share in the benefits of community pasture.

Mr. Proudfoot thought it absolutely necessary that all the legislative powers, Federal and Provincial, that had been necessary for the re-establishment of the south-eastern part of the Province, should be extended to the territory on the north side of the Red Deer River in the southern part of the constituencies of Acadia and Hand Hills, and the survey for that purpose should proceed without delay.

# NEED FOR "REAL HIGH SCHOOLS"

Mr. Proudfoot dealt with the matter of high school training of the children in the district referred to, showing that the number of rural schools doing high school work had decreased from 700 to 600, and in his opinion should still further decrease. He thought the municipal unit idea should be extended to provide "real high schools" for the children of the Province

# Shaw's Redistribution Resolution Lost After Long Debate in House

Hoadley Cites Figures Showing Significance of Vote in Last Election —Government Will Give Full Consideration to Proble m

### TUESDAY'S SITTING

EDMONTON, March 22.—Debate on the budget having been suspended pending the return of the Premier from Calgary tomorrow, the Assembly spent five hours in consideration of a resolution dealing with redistribution moved by Joseph T. Shaw, Bow Va ley. This resolution pressed for the bringing in of a bill at this session providing for the appointment of an independent, non-partisan and competent Redistribution Commission charged with the duty of arranging the boundaries of the constituencies under certain definite principles to be determined by the Legislature, this commission to invite suggestions from the general public and to report its findings to the house.

### WOULD LIMIT SEATS TO FORTY-FIVE

A. A. McGillivray, Calgary, later moved an amendment setting the number of constituencies at a maximum of 45 and seeking the provision for the outlining of the system of voting on some basis which would be capable of application in the rural as well as city ridings. This amendment was voted down 47 to 9. Giroux and Boudreau, Liberals, voting against the amendment, the balance of the Liberals voting with the Conservatives against a solid U.F.A.-Labor combination.

At the evening session, when the debate was finally wound up, the resolution was lost by the same overwhelming majority, all of the Liberals and Conservatives present uniting against the balance of the Assembly, those not present being paired with Government members.

Joseph T. Shaw, in introducing the resolution, said he was convinced that nothing was more vital in a democratic country than the method whereby the people were represented in the legislative halls. It was necessary that Parliaments and Legislatures should contain in the truest possible manner the reflection of the country. As there was no election in sight he thought this the opportune time to begin to give serious consideration to this question. He contended that the results of the last election had shown the weaknesses of the system under which it had been carried out. In the cities, Mr. Shaw contended, 12 seats gave an average of 3,956 per seat; while the rural parts with 48 seats had given an average of 2,832 per seat. Twenty-nine constituencies had polled less than the Provincial average; fifty rural constituencies had polled less than the city average; and two constituencies had polled votes above the city average.

### HIT OR MISS POLICY OF THE PAST

The member for Bow Valley slated the methods of redistribution previously in vogue, which he termed hit or miss, and a matter of chance. He traced the development of the idea, first the Government initiating the measure itself; then the appointing of a committee by the Government to consider the matter in secret with self interest dictating the

result; and finally the method generally adopted, that of the appointment of a house committee representing all groups, the house itself being the final arbiter.

Taking the total vote in the Province (175,000) as a basis, Mr. Shaw said that with 29 per cent of the votes the Liberals had obtained 116 per cent of the seats: with 29 per cent of the votes the Liberals had obtained 11.6 per cent of the seats; Labor, with 8 per cent of the votes received 10 per cent of the seats; U.F.A. with 41 per cent of the votes had received 71 persent of the seats; and the Conservatives, with 22.8 per cent of the votes had received 6.6 per cent of the seats. Had the basis been on that of population with 60 seats the result would have been: Liberal, 16; Labor, 5; U.F.A. 25; and Conservative, 14.

Whatever way it was taken, the leader contended, it was unfair that any Government should have 71 per cent of the representation with only 41 per cent of vote. The method which he advocated had been tried out in several British colonies, and

tried out in several British colonies, and consisted of the introduction of a bill appointing a commission who would under certain definite instructions from the House draw up a redistribution measure after advertising to receive suggestions from the general public. It would be the function of the Legislature to define the method of election, the number of seats and they would have the final say.

### PLAN OF INDEPENDENT COMMISSION

The appointment of an independent commission of this nature would remove this important matter from the hands of those who might have self-interest. The Australian system provided that the basis be: community or diversity of interest; means of communication; physiinterest; means of communication; physical features and population. The commission was allowed one-fifth more or less, or 20 per cent variation in the latter. The public would have confidence in this and all suspicion that Legislators had an axe to grind would be allayed. It would not derogate from the functions of the Assembly to do so.

He did not press for any particular method, but stated that there were three which could be taken into consideration.

# GOVERNMENT WANTS EQUITABLE METHOD

O. L. McPherson, Little Bow, said that Government recognized fully the the Government recognized fully the importance of having an equitable method of representation, and they were also desirous that the matter should be given consideration in sufficient time prior to the next election. He did not agree that the present time was opportune. Government had ever prepared a redistribution prior to an election year, so the member need not have been surprised that there had been no intimation of immediate action. The weaknesses re-vealed in the last election, said the minister, were largely a question of point of view. One reason why the committee appointed last year had failed to bring in anything definite was because there had not been full co-operation on the part of the members on the other side of the Assembly. It was the clear duty of representatives to shoulder full responsibility.

The remark that in the case of Medicine

Hat three seats had been created where two had existed previously, while technically correct, was misleading. There were no more members on that account. merely a readjustment between city and country voters. Fourteen constituencies had polled a smaller vote than Cypress, and six a smaller vote than Empress. Medicine Hat itself was fully represented by one seat.

The Minister agreed that redistribution should not be a matter of chance, nor would it if the members assumed their responsibility. If human nature functioned among members of the Assembly, would it function less in another body of men, no matter how selected, he asked.

Capt. Shaw-"Put the question in the hands of some people who are entirely disinterested."

Mr. McPherson-"I am not willing to admit that any committee from this Assembly—not even if chosen entirely from members opposite—would be actuated entirely by purely personal selfish motives, that is apart from any partisan viewpoint."

# FIGURES WHICH SHOW U.F.A. RECEIVED 53 PER CENT.

Dealing with the computation given by Capt. Shaw that 41 per cent of the vote gave the farmers 71 per cent of the representation, Mr. McPherson gave another version. If the vote obtained by Mr. Lymburn, in the city of Edmonton were excluded and the vote in all the constituencies where no U.F.A. candidates were nominated were eliminated, it would be found that the Government received 53 per cent of the entire vote received 53 per cent of the entire vote cast, irrespective of the fact that there cast, irrespective of the fact that there were three parties and some independents in the field. It had been suggested that the present system was not adequate, but no other method had been suggested as meeting the need or guaranteeing per-fect representation. All that had been done was to indict all systems which had been used in the past. There were many things to be taken into consideration, and the Province would change considerably in his opinion during the next four years, therefore he saw no necessity for undue haste. No particular one of the methods mentioned by the member from Bow Valley need be condemned; there need be no secrecy and the Assembly should itself assume full responsibility.

# McGILLIVRAY URGES IMMEDIATE ACTION

A. A. McGillivray, Calgary, stated he had gone into the question fully in his

throne speech. He had great confidence in the inherent integrity of the people on the farm—thousands and tens of thousands of whom had voted for groups other than this Government—and knew that they did not want a condition to endure which gave 71 per cent of the seating to 41 per cent of the vote. It was of paramount importance that action be taken immediately. He himself would always go slow when it was a question of discrimination, but would speed up to the limit when it was one of implementing a promise. Why delay until the last moment, he asked, and then rush as was done when Cypress was created?

Mr: McGillivray, taking a characteristically dramatic attitude which is highly amusing to the spectators but uncomamusing to the spectators but uncom-fortable to those within the scope of his attack, said the Minister's reply had expressed the Governments' consistent attitude. It was as though he had said -"There are three methods availablewe have been contemplating them for years—we have not made up our minds.

Mr. McPherson denied that he had either said or implied any such thing; he had made it quite clear that at the proper time the Government would place its plans before this Assembly.

Mr. McGillivray-"The Government has a method in view, then, but is not willing to confide it to this House." He willing to confide it to this House." He wanted action now, even should there be a change in the Province that could be adjusted at the last session prior to election. He moved, seconded by C. Y. Weaver, Edmonton, that the resolution be amended to place a maximum of 45 seats and decide on a method of voting. The amendment was lost Farmers and The amendment was lost, Farmers and Labor, together with L. A. Giroux, Grouard, and L. Boudreau, St. Albert, Liberal, also voting against.

# WHITE ON ABSURDITY OF SOME COMPARISONS

Fred White, Calgary (Labor) as a member of the committee on redistribution last year, and knowing the pitfalls in the way, could see no reason why

### AN ANALYSIS OF THE VOTING IN THE LAST PROVINCIAL ELECTION

Speaking in the Legislature on March 22nd, on the Shaw resolution on redistribution, George Hoadley showed that a total vote of 68,921 was cast for U.F.A. candidates, exclusive of the 3.045 given to Mr. Lymburn in the city of Edmonton. There were 48 rural seats, of which only 46 were contested by U.F.A. candidates.

In the Province as a whole only 67 per cent of the voters on the lists went to the polls. Taking this as the average for all constituencies, 37 of the 67 per cent. of votes cast in the 46 constituencies contested by the U.F.A. went to U.F.A. candidates; the Conservatives polled 23,459 votes in the 46 rural seats they contested, or 12 of the 67 per cent. cast; the Liberals polled 33,894 in the 45 rural seats they contested, or 18 out of the 67 per cent.

Dividing the 68,921 votes cast for U.F.A. rural candidates by 46 shows that the average number of votes cast for each U.F.A. member was 1,498; dividing 23,459 Conservative votes in 46 rural seats by 46 gives an average of 509 votes for each Conservative; dividing 33,894 Liberal votes in 45 rural riding by 45 gives an average of 733 votes for each Liberal.

The entire Provincial Liberal vote was 47,450, of which 13,556 was in the four city constituencies of Edmonton, Calgary, Lethbridge and Medicine Hat.

The entire Provincial Conservative vote was 40,091, of which 16,632 was in the four cities mentioned above.

Forty-one per cent. of the total Conservative vote was in the four city constituencies, and 28 per cent. of the Liberal vote.

Mr. Hoadley showed that the following differences in the election results would have been shown had the election been held under the old system instead of the system of the transferable vote in the rural constituencies: J. T. Shaw would have been defeated in Bow Valley and Earl Cook would have been defeated in Pincher Creek.

members of the Legislature should refuse to accept full responsibility all the way through. He ridiculed the idea of the leaders in their comparisons that Labor with 14,000 votes had received 10 per cent of the representation. Labor had confined itself to certain constituencies, but both old parties had placed pseudo-labor candidates in the field and the Conservative leader himself had stated that his party was the standard bearer for Labor. How many Labor votes had been included in the votes given other How many Labor votes had candidates where no bona-fide Labor candidate had run? Then, again, only first choices had been taken into consideration by the leaders, and no allowance made for the vote where no decision had been reached on first count. The whole method of computation was not worth consideration. Other factors which would have to be considered were race, religion topography and many others, and he had every confidence that a committee of the Assembly could deal with this matter, the Assembly itself being supreme.

# A QUESTION FOR McGILLIVRAY

After the vote on the amendment, Mr. Hoadley went on to worry Mr. Mc-Gillivray with questions as to whether or not the latter wanted the rural parts put on a par with the city constituencies. Contending vagueness, Mr. McGillivray asked an elucidation.

Mr. Hoadley—"Is it not your intention that if there are 10,000 votes in the country and 10,000 votes in the city the representation should be the same. Is that perfectly clear?" Mr. McGillivray—"The Minister has

Mr. McGillivray—"The Minister has made himself clear. It is also perfectly clear that I did not say that. I said that it was unfair that 41 per cent of the votes should obtain 71 per cent of the representation."

Mr. Hoadley thanked the member for his explanation. He quoted some remark of Lord Asquith about having "an obvious consciousness of effortless superiority, the leader twitting him about having written that down so as he would not forget it. "Quite so," went on the Minister, "the statement of the member that 41 per cent of the vote gave the Government 71 per cent of the representation was mideading to the rubble sentation was misleading to the public and also unfair. The real reason was that the leader opposite wanted some that the leader opposite wanted some system that would contribute to the defeat of this Government. The Government had no candidate in the cities (except Edmonton) and in a few others, yet he had lumped the entire vote of the Province in order to make his comparisons. The Minister then gave a host of figures from a different angle, which completely wiped out previous comparisons, and it was naively hinted that if the old system of voting had been used the mover of the resolution would not have been in the House that day.

No Province in Canada had ever

No Province in Canada had ever brought in a redistribution measure at its first session, and secrecy had been rampant in this Province as far back as 1913. The onus for failure to succeed with a measure prior to election was partially on the members opposite on

the Liberal benches.

Mr. Pingle—"The reason given by the late leader was that the Government had not given sufficient time."

# LEADER HAD SAT ON COMMITTEE FOR WEEKS

Mr. Hoadley—"Yes, that was his excuse, but the other leader who preceded him prior to his elevation to the bench had sat on the committee for weeks.

Not only that, but every paper in the Province was declaiming that if the Covernment did anything in the way of redistribution at that time it would be guilty of a great gerrymander. Of course, he said laughingly, there had been just a little one at Medicine Hat, but the voters had not resented it.

### GIBBS ON MISLEADING STATISTICS

Alderman Gibbs, Edmonton, (Labor) said that anyone who participated in this debate should have been connected with should be possessed of a profound politically mathematical mind, as there had been some astounding figures and com-putations presented to show that it was plain that because Labor had not placed a candidate in every constituency, they had only received a certain percentage of the vote, and had been submerged by the Liberals and Conservatives. Both figures and scripture could be quoted to prove anything by people of a peculiar mentality, so he did not consider those quoted of any particular importance. What mattered to him was the question of geography, and he counselled the Assembly to be wary of any system which did not make due allowance for this element, and he considered the Government justified in not being stampeded into hasty action.

Those who argued with respect to the equality on a population basis of city and country were actuated by a callous dis-regard of those who lived and worked in the great far-flung thinly populated spaces. He noticed that Messrs. Giroux and Boudreau had been cognisant of that

### McCOOL ON IMPORTANCE OF AREA

At the evening session, M. C. McCool, Cochrane, (U.F.A.) stressed the importance of area in arriving at any decision. ance of area in arriving at any decision. Athabasca, for instance, had 1,638 townships, as compared with some having from 9 1-2 to 16. He gave a raft of figures showing the result of the old method in other Provinces. In the one city riding in the last election, where the U.F.A. had placed a candidate, this candidate had secured such an overwhelming majority that there had to be ten counts before a second candidate had been elected. It had been a great had been elected. It had been a great blessing to the other parties that Mr. Brownlee had not run candidates in the other ridings, Mr. McCool said jocularly.

D. M. Duggan, Edmonton, referring to Mr. McCool's allusion to the election of the Attorney General by the people of Edmonton, said that had been prompted Edmonton, said that had been prompted by a humanitarian desire on their part, as they wanted to help this Government out. He was sorry that Mr. Hoadley had been unfair in his interpretation of the Conservative leader's policy with regard to redistribution, and reminded him of the leader's throne speech pro-posals. The amendment represented more fully the opinion of his group, but he was going to support the resolution.

He was averse to changing without reasonable cause from the old and tried systems to new and untried, as he did not think that novelty predicated progress in all cases. He challenged the Government if the present form of the resolution did not meet their wishes to amend it now.

### STRIPPED OF PET ILLUSIONS

W. H. Shield, Macleod (U.F.A.) recited some of the difficulties met with

by the committee appointed prior to the last election. These had stripped him of many of his pet illusions on this sub-ject. The committee had done good work and a map had been prepared which had been considered fair and equitable. One reason why the committee had not reached a definite solution was because it had not been possible to get a representative Conservative viewpoint on the

matter.

It had taken Great Britain fifty years to work out a system on a population basis, and several States had started out with that ideal but were now finding it impractical. In several States such as California, two or three cities controlled the state, and in others the cities had over 50 per cent of the representation. If they introduced a bill which would deal with all the contentious questions entering into this matter the Legislature entering into this matter the Legislature would be in session all summer.

Capt. Shaw, in closing the debate answered many of the questions of opponents of the resolution and he slated Mr. Gibbs severely for insinuating that the "big interests" or "best interests" were behind the movements of those on the Liberal benches. He spoke of the Labor member having used "weasel words" and of trying to bore holes through the atmosphere of the Assembly in order to reach the Cabinet benches opposite to reach the Cabinet benches opposite—a remark which, in the absence of Gibbs brought P. M. Christophers to his feet in protest, and the member from Rocky Mountain stoutly maintained the good faith and integrity of the Labor group.

The vote was then taken. The resolution was lost by a vote of 10 for and 37 against, Liberals and Conservatives uniting for the resolution. Some members were paired.

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bers were paired.

### Over Million Cut Made In Controllable Expenditure

Premier Gives Figures in Answer To Critics—Some Comparisons Be-tween Saskatchewan and Alberta

### WEDNESDAY'S SITTING

EDMONTON, March 23.—Boy! Page a Philadelphia lawyer! The question is: "A word, under any

The question is: "A word, under any other cognomen, shall express the same

other cognomen, shall express the same sentiment," if you know what I mean. To put it plainly, John E. Brownlee, reading from a press report of the peerless leader of the peerless party's speech in the Assembly, on the budget, said that the leader had accused the Governemnt of having wilfully "concealed" the expenditures of the railway department in the matter of the government railways.

The member from Capary (Mr. Mac

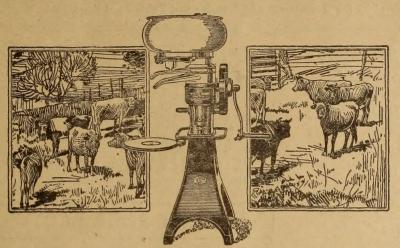
The member from Calgary (Mr. Mc-Gillivray) rose to correct the Premier on the third repetition of the word, informing him that he had not used the word "concealed" but had said "non-dis-

That is why the man in the street is still gasping and crying like an infant in the night, for light on the vexed question of what it all means.

### COUNTY SYSTEM NO HELP TO TAXPAYERS

M. C. McKeen, Lac St. Anne (U.F.A.) after dealing with the specific transportation needs of the people of Whitecourt-(Continued on Page 23)





# McCORMICKDEERING [Primrose] Ball-Bearing Cream

Separator!

THIS is the machine that set the pace in modernizing the cream separator. From farm to farm went the good word about the new efficiency that eased the daily work and added to the daily cream saving. The demand for the ball-bearing machine—McCORMICK-DEERING—grew by leaps and bounds. Thousands upon thousands invested in the simpler, easier-turning, cleaner-skimming separator. Today these thousands are better friends than ever of the durable ball-bearing machine.

The best test of success and popu-

larity is the testimony of owners. When you buy a cream separator, ask the men and women who use McCormick-Deering day in and day out. Satisfy yourself about every point—cream saving, cleaning, turning, sanitation, lubrication, simplicity, durability and service. Go by what they say about the ballbearing machine.

Made by the Harvester Company. Sold everywhere by the McCormick-Deering agents. You will profit by investing in the McCormick-Deering Separator.



# News from the Alberta Wheat Pool Head Office

Information for Members and Locals Edited by the Department of Education and Publicity of the Alberta Wheat Pool.

### Why the Grain Trade is Spending Money on Anti-Pool Propaganda

Farmers throughout the Prairie Provinces are receiving a great deal of free literature from the Northwest Grain Dealers The free literature Association and country elevator agents. we speak of is the anti-Pool propaganda which has been circulated in considerable volume to Pool members. The most recent information of this sort is a small booklet which

most recent information of this sort is a small booklet which summarizes the misinformation given out previously in small circulars and also some additional news, including a few opinions of the Pool by the grain trade.

The underlying argument of the grain trade propaganda is that agricultural co-operation is unsound in theory and unworkable in practice. The most vicous form of co-operation is in their view wheat pooling. Farmers would be well in their view, wheat pooling. Farmers would be well advised, they argue, to abandon the Pool which has deprived them of so much and patronize the old grain trade which always has given and always will give the farmers more than they will get through co-operation.

# WHAT HAS THE TRADE DONE FOR THE FARMER?

The private grain trade has been built up and maintained by the farmers. The farmers have made possible the profits of the trade by delivering their grain to it. The present capital of the grain trade has been built up largely from profit capital of the grain trade has been built up largely from profit made on marketing farmers' grain. In return what has the grain trade done for the farmer? How much money has the grain trade contributed to the advancement of agriculture in Western Canada? How many thousand dollars has the trade given to advance our knowledge of scientific and practical agriculture? How many scholarships in scientific agriculture have been endowed by the grain trade? What part has the grain trade played in developing new and improved varieties? Has the general level of agricultural education in the Prairies has rejected by the varieties? Has the general level of agricultural education in the Prairies been raised by the grain trade? What service, other than handling his grain, for which it has been handsomely rewarded, has the grain trade rendered the farmer? In what way has the grain trade been a benefactor of the farmer? Needless to say, three words will answer the above questions—

Nothing, None and No!

The farmers have made possible grain trade profits. In return the grain trade has used part of these profits to condemn the successful attempt on the part of prairie farmers to better their own conditions. The Pool is not an organization built up by a few men to exploit the farmers. It is an organization of farmers who have some together to make for their built up by a few men to exploit the larmers. It is an organization of farmers who have come together to work for their own mutual benefit by pooling their resources. The Pool is not interested in securing profits. Its primary function is to market its members' grain and return to its members every cent the consumer pays for their grain less only the necessary and minimum marketing costs. The Pool is not a band of inexperienced theorists, as the grain trade would have us believe. It is a co-operative organization controlled by 136,000 farmers and operated in such a way as to return to 136,000 farmers and operated in such a way as to return to the producer every possible cent for his crop. When the grain trade attacks the Pool it attacks 136,000 farmers working together for their mutual benefit; working to evolve a more efficient, less expensive, more remunerative, and more satisfactory form of marketing than the grain trade offers.

# POOL CUT DOWN SOME COMPANIES' EARNINGS

After reading the propaganda put out by the Northwest Grain Dealers Association, producers should ask themselves why the grain trade is taking such an interest in the farmers' affairs? Has the grain trade been so solicitous of the farmers' welfare in the past that we may trust it to guard zealously their interests in the future? There is, of course, only one possible answer to these queries. The Pool is now giving to the farmer what the grain trade used to get. The Pool has without question cut down the earning power of some private companies and naturally these companies do not love

the Pool.

The grain trade is fighting hard to regain its previous enviable position, that is, when it got large profits from mixing, drying, underweighing, undergrading, commissions and margins between prices pad and prices received. The trade opposes the Pool because it knows full well that the Pool's

guarantee to return to the farmer every cent his grain brings on the world's market, minus only the necessary and mini-mum marketing costs means good-bye to the grain trade's lucrative returns

In brief, the farmers have organized together to serve themselves. They have found that they can do this more adequately and for less expense than the grain trade. The grain trade wants to serve the farmers, but it wants too much for a service much inferior to the farmers' self-service. Because the farmer insists upon serving himself the grain trade insists upon spending a lot of money (made in serving him in the past) to induce him to accept their inferior service at a greater cost than the farmers' own superior service.

### WHEAT POOL LECTURES

We have just completed a small booklet called "Wheat Pool Lectures" which contains a brief summary of the objectives, methods of organization and operation and accomplishments of the Alberta Wheat Pool. The booklet contains fourteen articles on the following subjects:

- The Objectives of the Wheat Pool.
- The Economics of Co-Operation.

  The Organization of the Alberta Pool and its Relation to the Central Selling Agency.
- The Management of the Pool.
  The Pool Elevators—the Benefits You Get by a. How your Grain is Handled and Financed.
  b. The Pool Method of Payment.
  The Significance to the Wheat Pool Contract.
  Our interpretation of "Orderly Marketing" and our Wheat Pool Statistics.

  a. Membership. Agreement [Selling Policy]
- - Membership, Acreage and Gross Turnover of the Three Provincial Pools.
    - Operating Costs, Commercial and Elevator Reserves, and Net Prices Paid Growers. Elevator Operations.

- Anti-Pool Propaganda.
  Independent Opinions of Wheat Pools.
  What Agricultural Co-operation has done in Other Lands.
- The Relation of the Alberta Pool to the U.F.A. and the other Co-operative Enterprises in the The Future of the Pool. [Province.]

We publish today number one of the series. The remaining thirteen articles will be published in future issues. Any one may obtain a copy of the booklet or any of the articles by writing to the Department of Education and Publicity.

### THE OBJECTS OF THE WHEAT POOL

The primary objective of the Wheat Pool is, of course, to improve the economic and social welfare of the farmer. The standard of living of the producers has been increased, and will be further enhanced in the future, by the following

1. Replace the relatively inefficient competitive private grain marketing system by a farmer owned and controlled

co-operative association.

2. Increase the farmer's independence and income by giving him a voice in the selling of his crop. It stands to giving him a voice in the selling of his crop. It stands to reason that a well managed co-operative association with control of a large volume of grain can get appreciably better returns for its members than can the average individual farmer by selling his grain in a haphazard manner. Some of the reasons are: The co-operative is in a much better bargaining position. The co-operative has the latest and most up-to-date information on present and probable future grain production and consumption in all countries, and on prices in all markets. The average farmer has little or no information of this kind and could not use it effectively if he had. Many farmers have to sell their grain regardless of market conditions; the co-operative does not. The Pool has well trained and experienced salesmen who can unquestionably sell its members' grain to better advantage than the individual isolated producer. grain to better advantage than the individual isolated producer.

Reduce the margin between the producer and the consumer. By having a large volume of grain passing through its country and terminal elevators the Pool has reduced the handling charges appreciably. By having a large volume the Pool gets lower water freight rates. In other words, the large turnover of the Pool enables it to take advantage of the large turnover of the Pool enables it to take advantage of the economies of large scale production. Labor, management, rent, interest, insurance, depreciation and other necessary charges per bushel of grain handled are materially lower under the Pool than under the old plan.

4. Secure for the farmer the maximum net returns for his crop. Under the old plan the farmer got the competitive

his crop. Under the old plan the farmer got the competitive market price for his grain and all profits went to private individuals. Under the Pool plan the farmer gets what the consumer pays, minus only the proper marketing charges. Under the new plan there are no profits, as the farmer gets the price paid by the consumer minus only the actual costs of transferring the grain from the country town to the consumers' market. The large profits made from mixing, drying and cleaning grain which formerly went to private dealers are now returned to the farmer in the form of higher net prices.

prices.

5. Insure the farmer against the losses and uncertainty due to changing market prices. Under the old plan some due to changing market prices. Under the old plan some farmers got top prices, some bottom prices, and many got prices ranging in between these two extremes. Under the new plan all the Pool farmers get the same price for the same quality of product regardless of when they deliver their grain. There is no uncertainty, as all members are assured a fair average price for the crop year. Before the Pool bean to operate farmers never knew when to sell their grain. When the market was rising farmers thought it would rise still further and held their grain. When the market was falling the market was rising farmers thought it would rise still further and held their grain. When the market was falling farmers got scared and, thinking it would go still lower, sold their grain, which, of course, sent prices tumbling down. The Pool farmer can forget about the market and attend to his farming operations, as he knows full well his grain will be sold by experts to good advantage and that he will get a fair average price for it. The Pool method of selling grain may be properly looked upon as a form of insurance. The individual farmer is insured against heavy loss due to falling markets, and the cost of such insurance is very small when it is distributed over some 40,000 members. Under the old plan the speculators bore the risk due to fluctuating markets, and very frequently, especially when prices went up, extracted handsome sums for their services. Under the new plan the entire group bears the risk of falling prices, and reaps the gains of rising prices which formerly went to speculators.

rising prices which formerly went to speculators.

6. By bringing together a large number of farmers to work together to their mutual advantage the Pool has added appreciably to the farmers' social life. By encouraging gatherings such as Pool, U.F.A. and other meetings, the Pool has done something to overcome the greatest of all barriers to effective organization—isolation of the farmers.

7. To increase the consumption of wheat by opening up and maintaining new outlets in the Orient and other source.

and maintaining new outlets in the Orient and other countries. Any increase in consumption means greater demand and greater

demand always means better prices.

8. To give every encouragement to the extension of better farming methods. By keeping the farmers posted on the most up-to-date and improved methods of farming, including soil tillage, the use of good seed, crop rotation, weed control, etc., the Pool will render a valuable service to its members. In order to render this service we will co-operate to the fullest possible extent with all the agencies in Canada, particularly those in Alberta, working for a better and more prosperous agriculture.

### INTER-PROVINCIAL BOARD MEETING

On Monday and Tuesday of last week the members of the Boards of Directors of the three Pools met in Calgary. These inter-Provincial Board meetings are held three times each year. The purpose of the gathering is to give an opportunity to the various Directors to exchange views on the Pool problems of their Provinces and to co-ordinate the activities of the three Pools. A great deal of benefit has been derived in the past by frank and open discussions on all matters vital to the Pool, and the gathering last week was no exception to the general rule. The matters discussed were:

1. Amendments to the Canada Grain Act.
2. Internal financing.

Elevators at boundary stations.

Grading System.

Amendments to the Bank Act.

Selling Policy. Grain Insurance.

International Conference and Basis of co-operation

[with other Pools. Basis of Terminal profits.

RE-AFFIRM STAND ON GRAIN ACT AMENDMENT

The conference reaffirmed the stand it took in the past in supporting the Campbell Amendment to the Canadian Grain Act. The Amendment is commonly known as "Bill No. 8," which gives the farmer the right to designate the terminal elevator to which he wants his grain shipped.

A resolution was passed supporting the action taken by the House Committee on Agriculture at Ottawa, which recommended that a committee be appointed to advise the Minister of Agriculture regarding the merits of new wheat varieties, offered for registration. The committee is to consist of the Dominion Cerealist, a representative of the Canadian Seed Growers' Association, a representative of the Provincial seed branch in the Province where the new variety originates and a representative of the Pools. In the past the Minister of Agriculture has been obliged to issue a license for any new variety regardless of its merits. The amendment to the Seed Act now before the House proposes to restrict the issuing of licenses to only those varieties whose merits have been definitely established.

### PREPARING FOR INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

The matter of the International Conference was thrashed The matter of the International Conference was thrashed out. The program for the conference will be drawn up in Minneapolis next Monday by G. Robertson, Secretary of the Saskatchewan Pool, C. Burnell, President of the Manitoba Pool, Lew Hutchinson, a member of the Alberta Wheat Pool Board, and representatives of the United States Pools. The whole matter of the basis upon which the Canadian Pools will co-operate with other Pools in an exchange of information and co-ordination of activities will be discussed at the conference at Kansas City in May.

The inter Provincial meeting was concluded with a suppose

The inter-Provincial meeting was concluded with a supper in the Hudson Bay Store. The principal speaker at the meeting was C. O. Smith, President of the Calgary Board of Trade. In his remarks Mr. Smith assured those present that Trade. In his remarks Mr. Smith assured those present that the Pools would receive his continued and whole-hearted support. The speaker voiced his belief in the soundness of the Wheat Pool plan. He considered it a new and very desirable stage in the evolution of grain marketing and firmly believed in the business ability and integrity of those who managed it. Mr. Smith remarked that he was convinced that apart from the financial benefits the Pool had had a very heneficial psychological effect, as it has given Alberta a more beneficial psychological effect, as it has given Alberta a more contented farm population than she had ever enjoyed prior

Mr. Wood, Mr. McPhail and Mr. Burnell all thanked Mr. Smith for the consistent support he had given the Pool plan prior to the formation and ever since the inception of the Pools.

### -0-TREATING GRAIN FOR SMUT

The formaldehyde treatment consists in spraying with, or dipping in a solution consisting of one pound of commercial formaldehyde, to 32 Imperial gallons of water. Wheat and barley can be sprayed satisfactorily. Oats have cavities at the ends of their hulls where the smut germs may find cover. For that reason oats require dipping in order to admit the disinfecting solution to all parts of the seed grain where the smut germs are likely to be lodged. This can be accomplished by placing the oats in gunny sacks and dipping them for about five minutes.

After dipping or spraying with this wet solution, it is best to sow the seed immediately and the drill must be set to allow for the slight swelling of the seed due to the extra moisture. In other words, if the drill is set to sow six pecks of wheat and the seed is damp, it will actually sow about five pecks. The seed can be dried out carefully and kept for seeding later, but there is some danger that it may spoil, either by heating, moulding or freezing.

The copper carbonate dust treatment has the advantage over wet formalin treatment for disinfecting seed wheat and hull-less oats, for the simple reason that the seed is not moistened and none of the dangers incidental to wetting the grain are involved. The treatment is not recommended for barley tened and none of the dangers incidental to wetting the grain are involved. The treatment is not recommended for barley and oats. The method consists in mixing from two to four ounces of copper carbonate dust per bushel of seed wheat. The mixing can be accomplished by sprinkling the dust over the seed pile and then shovelling the seed over thoroughly, or it can be done with a machine made for the purpose. Such machines are now advertised in the farm papers. The method is becoming very popular in the wheat growing sections of the United States and may prove equally popular in Western Canada. Since the copper carbonate dust is very irritating to the eyes and lungs, care should be taken to avoid it. Goggles can be worn over the eyes and if necessary a small gas mask or ean be worn over the eyes and if necessary a small gas mask or

a moistened sponge or cloth may be worn over the nostrils, to avoid inhaling the dust. When machines are used for mixing dust. When machines are used for mixing very little difficulty of this kind is experienced.

### Advantage of Vapor Treatment

The advantage of the formalin vapor treatment for oats is that it does not wet the seed. Mix one pound of formalin with about a gallon of water, spray this on the seed with a sprayer which will throw a fine vapor spray. Use exactly one pound of formalin to fifty bushels of grain. The seed should be shovelled over to insure that some of the vapor reaches

into all parts of the pile of seed grain. After treatment, the seed should be covered with burlap or blankets of some kind for about five hours; then the seed can be sown immediately or spread out to dry. The formalin can be used for this method of treatment without mixing with water, but the rate suggested, namely, one pound of formalin solution to one gallon of water, is recommended by the best authorities as being the best and most convenient method. This treatment can be used for smut of oats, and has some advantage over the dipping method because it does not wet the seed very much.

# Should Canadian Wheat Be Graded On the Basis of Protein Content?

The wheat kernel contains five proteins. The two principal ones are gliadin and glutenin. When wheat flour is made into a dough these two proteins combine with one another to form what is known as "gluten."

The protein content of wheat is ascer-tained by making a chemical analysis of the wheat berry to obtain the content of nitrogen. The nitrogen content multiplied by 5.7 gives the crude protein, as wheat proteins contain approximately

seventeen per cent nitrogen.

The quality of wheat is dependent upon several factors, one of which is the quantity and quality of the protein it contains. Other things being equal, a sample of wheat containing say 13 or 14 per cent of protein is more valuable than one conof protein is more valuable than one containing 10 or 11 per cent protein. Flour high in protein will absorb more moisture than flour low in protein. Flour made from high protein wheat is also superior as a standard baking process may be used for different lots, of flour without the same possibility of a poor batch as in the case of low protein flour.

### May Not Mean High Quality

The mere fact that wheat is high in protein content is no justification for concluding that it is of high quality, as it may lack one or more of the other factors essential to quality. For instance, Durum wheats are generally high in protein, but they are not suited for bread making. Frozen, green or light weight wheats are usually high in protein, as they contain a larger proportion of bran relative to starch than do plumper wheats. The outer port on of the berry, of course, contains a larger percentage of protein than the inner portion. It would, therefore, be manifestly unfair to grade wheat solely on the basis of protein, as the wheat which gives a much lower yield of flour and frozen wheat which gives a very inferior loaf might be graded as high or even higher than plump wheat capable of being made into good bread.

### Europe Not Interested in Protein Content

Quite apart from the technical considerations referred to above, it would be inadvisable to grade the Canadian wheat crop purely on a protein basis as the principal importers of our wheat (Britain, France, Germany, etc.) are not particularly interested in protein content, partly because the supply of high protein wheat is very great relative to the demand, and partly because Old Country bakers are not willing to pay premiums for protein. Like the people in the Southern States,

the French people use a great deal of soft wheat for making biscuits. They do not want the high protein bread de-manded by the North American consumer.

In the United States for the crop years of 1923, 1924 and 1925 fancy premiums were paid for wheat high in protein. In 1923, for instance, premiums ranging from 20 per cent to 65 per cent per bushel over the prevailing option were paid. It was very common in these years to get Ic per bushel for each 1-10th per cent of protein over a certain point. The principal reason why the premiums were high in these years was the short supply of high protein wheat relative to the effective demand for it. In the crop year of 1926 premiums on protein have been practically obliterated due to the large supply of high protein wheat, relative to

In Canada, where there is an enormous supply of wheat containing 13 to 14 per cent of protein, millers and importers do not need to pay premiums for protein, as they can get plenty of wheat with ample protein at prevailing prices. It is doubt-ful if the extra money obtainable for wheat specially high in protein would be sufficient to offset the costs of segregating and maintaining the identity of same.

### "A PROFITABLE FARMERS" COMPANY"

(Montreal Star)

There was a time when the farmers looked upon the larger railway and in-dustrial corporations with a degree of wonder and admiration for their power, and at times with some suspicion for their capacity to earn big dividends. But it has now come to pass that farmers' corporations have attained strength and financial standing which compares with the best and the biggest.

The Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Company, a \$12,500,000 corporation bought by the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool, to be known in future as the Saskatchewan Pool Elevators, Limited, has had another very profitable year. The action of the very profitable year. The action of the Pool in purchasing this property would seem to be justified both by the record

seem to be justified both by the record and results over a long period.

This investment by the Pool in the big wheat producing Province should be as an anchor to the farmers' enterprise, affording them a substantial asset at all times when the Pool might otherwise be hard hit in any period of stress in market conditions. The co-operative

spirit may help in organization, but the actual investment in valuable property is likely to prove the stronger power to

The stockholders in the "Sask. Co-op." as it was familiarly known, invested \$7.50 each in stock. In return they are each now to receive in settlement \$150. This will compare with some of the best records in mining and stock turns, and outdoes most of them. The Company was under the direction of Hon. Chas. A. Dunning during the earlier period of the war as general manager, when it laid up a reserve which now comes back to the shareholders.

It is quite possible that if these farmers' companies, the United Grain Growers and the Sask. Co-op., had adhered to a policy of co-operation in distributing profits to all patrons there might not have been any Pool. But they preferred to adhere to the regular methods and form of joint stock companies, and have made creditable showing in many respects. It is essential that any corporation shall have reserves against the day of reverse. How far the Pool will be able to continue the good record made by the company it has taken over remains to be seen. The standard is high and the opportunity is wide open.

### **NEW YORK FINANCIAL** INTERESTS CONSIDER POOL PLAN IS SOUND

What is looked upon as national recognition of co-operative marketing as a sound business institution, is contained in the announcement from New York financiers of a five and one-half million dollar loan to the raisin growers. This financing is expected to result in great benefits to the growers and to all interests in the raisin producing sections. The transaction represents Wall Street's first big loan to farmers. It is heralded in the press as an historical event and a triumph for co-operative marketing. Certain it is that the sound business standing necessary for such credit is only obtainable by large groups of agricultural producers, organized on a co-operative basis.

### WORLD WHEAT CONFERENCE IN ROME

A world wheat conference is to be held in Rome, beginning April 25th. The international Agricultural Institute is lending the building, the Government is supplying much of the money, and Mussolini superintended the program, just issued.

The conference will discuss all wheat problems, cultivation, control of diseases and pests, trade and transportation. Especial attention will be given standardization of types. Storage, methods of increasing production and the possibility of co-operation on a large scale will also be discussed.

Government representatives and members of merchants' and farmers' organizations from Europe, North and South America and Australia will attend. The Italian State is giving special transportation rates, there will be special terms at hotels, and the delegates will have the usual round of sight-seeing and entertainment.

YOU MAY GET POOL NEWS OVER THE AIR
The Wheat Pools broadcast Pool news

every week from Calgary and Edmonton. The Edmonton Journal broadcasts our message over CJCA every Monday night from 8:15 to 8:30 p.m. The Calgary Daily Herald broadcasts over CFAC on alternate Thursdays from 9:15 to 9:30. We also broadcast on alternate Thursdays over CFCN from 8:45 to 9 p.m.

(Continued on Page 22)

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# A Monstrous Project for Political Brigandage

Georgian Bay Canal Bill Is Mighty Scheme to Rob the People of Canada of Immensely Valuable Portion of the Public Domain—Dunning and Saskatchewan and Manitoba Liberals Gloss Over Character of Proposal -Why the Bill Must Be Scotched.

By E. J. GARLAND, M.P.

prolonged debate has taken place on the private bill introduced by Mr. Chevrier, a Liberal member for the city of Ottawa. This bill proposes to extend a charter to the Sifton interests, giving to them the right to build the Georgian Bay Canal, and appears to have the tacit approval of the Government.

No one was more surprised than the writer when, as the debate proceeded, it became clear that a mighty scheme of exploitation of the people's heritage was concealed under this innocent-looking Here is the story.

# CONFERS CHARTER

In 1894 a special act of Parliament was passed giving to the Montreal, Ottawa and Georgian Bay Canal Company a charter. This charter provided special statutory powers to construct and operate an immense waterway some hundreds of miles in length, running from the mouth of French River on Georgian Bay in Lake Huron to Montreal. The act further provided that the company could construct dams and develop water power.

The company did not commence any operations, and on expiry of the lease secured renewals from time to time, covering more than 32 years. In short, private interests, represented now by the Sifton group in Toronto, have had a valuable charter for one third of a century; have sought and secured from various governments renewal after renewal, until the one now before us constitutes the fourteenth, and in all that time have not put a spade to ground nor built a dam in a streamlet.

### IMMENSE VALUES HELD FOR SPECULATION

It has become clear that the promotors of this bill seek to hold for speculation the immensely valuable power sites along the territory served by the Ottawa and French Rivers. These amount to an estimated Rivers. These amount to an power development of nearly one and a million horse power. Some conquarter million horse power. Some conception of the values at stake may be estimated when it is known that the Ontario Hydro-Electric Commission have only developed a total of 900,000 horse power on a capitalization of about \$250,000,000. This bill now seeks to secure for private ownership the control over an immense national resource so vital to the future development of this country.

When the Bill first passed the House 32 years ago, this country had not adopted the principle of public ownership in re-spect to transportation. But since then immense strides have been made in this regard, until now the people own and control one of the largest railway transportation systems in the world, and have development of canals which are to be free to the public. This bill permits the owners of the charter to charge the users of the canal tolls, thus violating a long established principle. In addition, the

Despatches published in the daily press since the article on this page was written indicate that a vigorous fight, led by Mr. Garland, is now being made in the House of Commons to prevent the Georgian Bay Canal Bill being given a second reading.

promotors claim that in order to build the canal they must develop and sell the power, so that through its sale to the public they may not only construct the canal, but also pay all fixed charges and operating costs amounting to an estimated sum of \$250,000,000.

# WOULD IMPOSE MOST UNJUST BURDEN

Thus \$250,000,000 out of \$282,000,000 is to be met out of the sums paid by the users of electricity within the radius served by the power developments on this project. Could any more unjust proposal be made than that the farmers, the small and large industries, mills and mining developments should be obliged to pay for the construction of a national transportation link of this magnitude?

### SPLENDID EXAMPLE OF ONTARIO

The Province of Ontario some years ago accepted and put into practice the principle of public ownership of power resources, and founded the now world famous Hydro-Electric Commission, developing a tremendous amount of power and distributing it at cost to the public. The success of the undertaking has gratified all believers in public ownership, and sets a fine example to our Province of Alberta, where it is to be hoped further power development will take place under the ownership and control of the people of the Province.

The Province of Quebec has on the other hand pinned its faith to develop-ment by private interests. Now, the Ottawa River is the boundary between these two Provinces, each of which is entitled to half of the available horse power and is entitled to direct the manner in which each shall develop or permit development of its share. But one now asks: "If the Provinces have the right to develop their own share, how does it become a matter for Federal legislation?" The answer is that in 1870 an Act of Parliament declared the Ottawa River was navigable and all works thereon to be works for the general advantage of Canada. By the 91st section of the B.N.A. Act, 1867, the Parliament possess exclusive right to deal legislatively and control navigable waters for purpose of navigation.

There is here established the over-riding "right of user." The Company claim that by virtue of special acts of which this bill is a renewal, the Parliament

of Canada has relinquished its rights to the company to develop the navigation of the Ottawa, and so delegates to the company the "right of user" to all waters required for navigation purposes.

### COMPLETE CONTROL OF POWER DEVELOPMENT

The bill further grants the company the right to develop and sell or otherwise dispose of all power developed incidental to the canal work. Authoritative engineers' reports declare that it is not established that even under the plans sub-mitted there will be any surplus water over that required for navigation, so that in effect the bill gives, as was stated before, the complete control of all power development to the company. In a state-ment issued by the company the following passages make this clear:

"Therefore the Montreal, Ottawa and Georgian Bay Canal Company have the exclusive and over-riding right to the use of water on the Ottawa River, right which when put into force DE-STROYS ALL OTHER CLAIMS."

"Any EXISTING USERS OF WA-TER in the Ottawa River are, to the extent to which they interfere with the right to develop and control that river for navigation, INTERLOPERS for navigation, INTERLOPERS WITH NO LEGAL STATUS WHAT-SOEVER."

# QUALIFICATION

Note the modification in above sentence "to the extent to which they interfere with, etc." a worthless qualification in view of the following passage also appearing in the official statement of the promoters:

"AS A MATTER OF PHYSICAL FACT THERE IS NO WATER IN THE OTTAWA RIVER WHICH IS NOT ESSENTIAL FOR NAVIGATION."

Thus the statements of the promoters of the bill clearly interpret the bill to mean absolute and permanent rights over all power developments. What a feast for the lawyers is provided by Parliament if this bill passes the House! Picture the endless litigation that will ensue, for already there are several power developments under lease existing on the river, the principal one being at Carrillon.

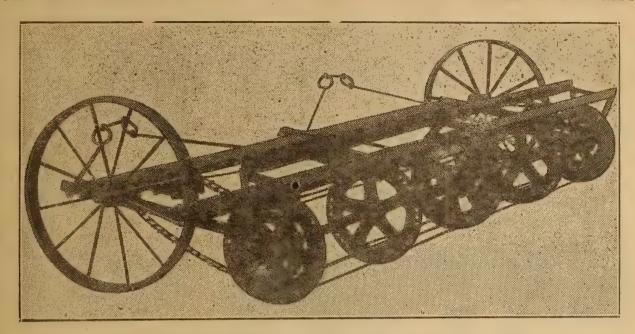
# ENTER POWER GROUP NUMBER TWO

Here enters private power group number two, known as the National Hydro. It is well known that Sir Herbert Holt is the moving figure in this second ring, and has behind him the Montreal power monopolists.

A small lease was issued many years ago by Geo. P. Graham and renewed from time to time until recent years, when additional power development was permitted under the Meighen administration of 1921. Some development work, however, was proceeded with in

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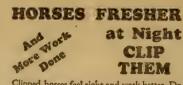
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this case, and a small plant established. Again authority for issuance of this lease by the Dominion appears to rest in the construction of a short navigable canal by the Dominion Government. But when an attempt to secure right to the National Hydro to develop the entire horsepower at the Carrillon was made two years ago, and a lease submitted to the Governor-in-Council, it was not signed nor its terms agreed upon. When, however, the Conservatives held power for a short while last summer, Sir Henry Drayton executed a new lease in spite of the objections of Premier Taschereau of Quebec and Premier Ferguson of Ontario. It is probable that the lease issued by Sir Henry Drayton, extending until 2003 was illegal and would have involved the Dominion in grave litigation proceedat Night Clipped horses feel right and work better. Do better on less feed. Cleaned in half the time. They perk up after being clipped and are less subject to horse ailments. Unclipped horses sweat their strength away. At night they get no rest for the icy blanket of long, wet hair chills them through and through. Run down condition results and they are easy prey to many ailments, Keep your horses on the job. Clip row with Stewart No. 1 Clipping Machine. Clips fast. Lasts many years. Strong, simple, ball-bearing, easy running, stays sharp. Same machine clips cowa. At your dealer's \$16.00, Western Canada \$16.50, or send \$2.00 to factory and pay balance on arrival. Satisfaction or money refunded. the Dominion in grave litigation proceedings. However, the Liberals cancelled this agreement and merely extended the old lease until May 1st, 1927. Flexible Shaft Co. Ltd. STEWART

# BOTH PARTIES PLAYING WITH PEOPLE'S PROPERTY

So both parties have been playing with the people's property, and more than a suspicion exists that behind it all is the old source of party strength, the secret campaign fund.

In one of the eastern papers an editorial recently appeared stressing this phase of

the matter, stating:

"There is one and only one reason for the revival of the old Georgian Bay Canal Project. It is party funds. It would be ten thousand times worse than the sale of royal honors. There is no reason in the world for such a shameless transaction other than the necessity of raising party funds and to rob the people in order to pay the pirates who will contribute to party funds is infinitely worse than to sell royal tonors for cash."

Surely the country has suffered enough from the wild adoption of premature developments and duplication of transportation enterprises! Whilst still carrying the debt entailed by the unwise construction of certain transcontinental and other railroad lines, are we now to plunge into duplicate canal construction? Let us assume that the canal project is feasible and that the promoters will construct it. Let us assume that it will secure an immense tonnage from the lakes through to Montreal. Let us assume that it will even be a paying proposition. All of which is easily refuted. But supposing all to be true, even then the construction of the canal should not be authorised, as with its construction would vanish the last vestige of hope of salvaging anything for the people out of the Welland Canal. This has so far cost the taxpayers nearly \$100,000,000, and by time of completion will probably cost an additional \$25,000, 000. Are the people not to be considered at all?

# • PEOPLE CRUSHED BETWEEN OPPOSING FORCES

<u>a</u>

It is an amazing spectacle to see two warring power groups struggling for su-premacy over our resources, with the political parties lined up on either side and the people being crushed between the opposing forces.

But the Canal is not feasible. A Royal

But the Canal is not feasible. A Royal Commission investigated the project for FOUR YEARS and made three reports thereon to Parliament, the last in the year 1918. And not one single sentence can be quoted in support of the project from the volumes of this report.

Again there are on the files of the Department of Public Works memo after memo reporting to the Minister that the



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plans submitted by the promoters of the bill are "wholly inadequate" and that they should not be approved of by the Governor-in-Council.

# DANGER IN ATTITUDE OF WESTERN LIBERALS

A striking feature of the debate so far is that speaker after speaker rises in the ranks of the Liberal party and urges, not the passing of the bill, (they dare not do that), but that the second reading be given and the bill referred to a committee so that all the facts may be known. But these gentlemen, including wall-known. so that all the facts may be known. But these gentlemen, including well-known Saskatchewan and Manitoba Liberals, even the Hon. Mr. Dunning himself, deliberately gloss over the fact that once the House gives second reading to a bill the principle of the measure is agreed to and the only alterations permissable would be in the nature of details. One is at a loss to understand just why Western Liberalism is prostituting itself in this manner.

manner.

Our position is that the charter should not be renewed to the Sifton or any other interests but that the heritage of the people should be developed by and for the people; that navigation canals are properly National undertakings and should be built at the expense of the state and not at the expense of a few power users along the district served by the canal; that this charter would prejudice the whole future of public ownership of power in Ontario!

# BOTH ONTARIO AND QUEBEC OPPOSED

The Province of Ontario recorded its unanimous opposition to the project in a resolution recently passed by the Legislature. The Province of Quebec represented by its premier, Mr. Taschereau, has protested against the charter. The press of the two Provinces has almost unanimously attacked the charter, and not a single important paper has supported its renewal.

It would destroy the national undertaking, the Welland Canal, and mean the loss of over \$100,000,000.

We intend to oppose the charter with all our strength and also the issuance of any extended lease to the National Hydro of Quebec, which is as stated before, a private monopolistic group. The Province of Ontario recorded its

# COLOSSAL POLITICAL BRIGANDAGE

The whole project is a monstrous attempt to burglarise the public domain. It is by far the biggest attempt at exploitation attempted in my time in Parliament.
It is a colossal form of political brigandage which should be resented by the whole of the Canadian people. If it is not rooted out and destroyed now, it will hold the people in bondage to either of these great

groups of promotors.

I make no apology for devoting my entire article to this one subject for, in my opinion, no more important one is before the Parliament at this session. As compared with this the infamous "Petersen Contract" was a bagatelle; indeed, one has to go back to the old days of wholesale alienation of the people's domain to railway interests to find a parallel. Scotch this vicious thing now!

### TEXTBOOKS PUBLISHED IN U.S.A.

In order that all members may be fully conversant with the matter, Gwynne U.F. A. Local, in a resolution passed recently, ask that Hon. Perren Baker "publish fully his reasons for choosing the Latin textbook published in the U.S.A."

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# The Dangerous Recommendations of the Duncan Report

How the Proposals Respecting the Maritime Provinces Will Heap Up Serious Trouble for Canada Unless They Are Greatly Altered by Parliament.

By W. M. DAVIDSON

Unless the Canadian Parliament very materially alter the recommendations in the Duncan report, before interpreting the same into legislation, it will heap up troubles, which at no very distant date will be very serious. Canadians, at present, are inclined to be very generous, particularly with any section of the country which is not prospering. The disposition of Parliament and the country as well, seems to be to give the Maritime Provinces a hand up, and to ask no questions and not be niggardly about it.

# SURE TO CREATE A MOST SERIOUS PROBLEM

This rather reckless attitude, which is somewhat impatient with any guarded investigation or consideration, is sure to create, eventually, in other directions, a more serious problem than Parliament has to face in the Maritimes. This inconsiderate generosity, inspired partly by a desire to win approval of the Maritime voters, makes it more difficult for the Western member, who really takes the longer and broader view, to express his objections. Although in opposing special treatment to any section of the nation he is the one who is pursuing the truly national course, he is certain to be accused of parochialism and of following the narrow way.

Readers who have followed the debates in parliament this session will recall that frequently the members have been advised that Confederation was a pact among self-governing Provinces or colonies and for that reason the B.N.A. Act—our constitution—could not be amended without the definite and formal sanction of all the Provinces. On one occasion Mr. Woodsworth, during this very session, asked Parliament to make suggestions for amendments to the constitution, to be submitted to a conference of the Provinces called for that purpose. Mr. Lapointe, speaking for the Government, and Mr. Gutbrie for the opposition, opposed the resolution because Confederation was a sacred pact and any changes must come from the Provinces and could not be made without the sanction of the Provinces. Mr. Woodsworth asked only that certain recommendations be made, which would be discussed at such a conference, but because of the nature of Confederation, Parliament rejected the resolution by a very large majority.

### SERIOUS DEPARTURE FROM BASIS OF CONFEDERATION

But the recommendations of the Duncan report suggest a serious departure from the basis of Confederation, and not only without the sanction and approval of the Provinces, but without any consideration by or of six of the Provinces. The recommendations are sectional and not national, and their adoption must lead to national discord rather than national harmony.

That is an alarming objection to the suggested action, but an analysis of the report on its merits does not greatly mollify these more or less constitutional

criticisms. Let us discuss the recommendations on their merits.

1. Increased subsidies to the three Maritime Provinces.—I am convinced that the time has arrived when the Dominion should make increased grants on some definite basis to the Provinces. The aim of Confederation was not to make the Dominion rich and the Provinces poor. All the Provinces are finding difficulty in balancing their budgets and meeting their obligations. The Federal Government, instead of making certain grants to the Provinces in 1912 to assist in highways and technical education, should have increased the subsidies and permitted the Provinces to disburse the funds as they saw fit. Without doubt had the war not come on, when it did, the Federal Government would long ago have increased the grants to the Provinces. The war delayed these increases because it made the task of Federal finance so much more difficult. If the Canadian Parliament at this session should decide upon a general increase in Provincial grants on a uniform basis, as it did in 1907, I am certain there would be no serious objection, even if the increases were not submitted to a conference of the Provinces.

# FOUR REASONS GIVEN IN JUSTIFICATION

But the Duncan report makes no such recommendation, but asks that the three Maritime Provinces, as compared with the other Provinces, should receive certain additional grants. In justification of such recommendation it gives four reasons which we may consider:

A. Three of the Provinces, Ontario, Quebec and Manitoba, had their boundaries extended, and for that reason the Maritime Provinces for some reason should have additional financial consideration from the Dominion.

If there is virtue in such a contention, then British Columbia, Saskatchewan and Alberta, whose boundaries have not been increased, should receive similar consideration. In the case of Manitoba, the Province did not get possession of the added territory and the increased areas were more of a liability than an asset. If Alberta were offered control of the northern hinterland, the Government would without doubt wisely reject any such offer. When Ontario and Quebec got control of their hinterlands, they seemed to be taking on additional obligations.

B. A second reason given for special subsidies for the Maritime Provinces is that—in the matter of subsidies for debt allowances, the same method of calculation was used for the Maritime Provinces as the other Provinces, but the older Provinces brought to the Dominion at Confederation, certain assets which the new Provinces did not have.

That is a claim against the three Prairie Provinces, but not against Ontario, Quebec and B.C. It is not a very important contention. In the case of the Maritimes certain Provincial property

at confederation was turned over to the Dominion and the same rule was observed in the Territories. In the case of the Maritime Provinces, which were going concerns, the value of the assets was greater than in the case of the Prairie Provinces, which were at the beginning and had few assets.

The Province of Nova Scotia, which is making the loudest complaint, turned in to the Dominion, an amount of completed railway. Compare the railway situation in Nova Scotia with Alberta. The Dominion assumed control of every mile of railway in Nova Scotia and bonused generously—in some instances with Alberta lands—the railways built by private concerns. Alberta, in order to develop its vast areas in the north, had to build its own railways, an effort which has been a serious burden to the people of the Province, and for some reason that has never been explained, the Dominion denied to—Alberta railways the ordinary mileage grant. The Eastern provinces have no just ground for complaint.

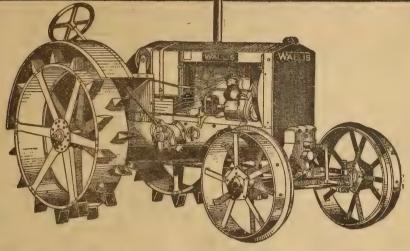
C. The School Lands. The Maritime Provinces camplain that the Dominion Government in disposing of their lands in the three Prairie Provinces have reserved the lands known as "school lands" and have handed over the revenues from the sale of this property to the three Western Provinces, instead of distributing it among all the Provinces. That, again, is a claim against the Provinces of Ontario, British Columbia and Quebec. When analysed it is not a sound or convincing claim.

### MARITIMES GOT EVERY ACRE OF THEIR LANDS

The Maritime Provinces got every acre of their lands. The Prairie Provinces got the revenue from two sections in every township and not an acre more, and now the complaint is that the revenue of those two sections in every Province, should be taken from the Prairie Provinces and distributed among all the Prayinces

But some one will say that the Prairie Provinces received cash compensation in lieu of the lands. That is not quite correct. They received cash compensation for their resources not including the lands. In all the negotiations in recent years between the Western Provinces and the Federal Government for the transfer of the lands, consideration was made for the alienation of the resources other than the lands, but never for alienation of lands. The reason for that was that the land alienated was so overwhelming that any estimate of it made any transfer utterly impossible. The Maritime Provinces build up their case on school lands by estimating the lands sold at a valuation of \$12.00 an acre. If we estimated the 125,000,000 acres of prairie lands alienated at the same valuation, we would have a total sum of nearly two billions of land alienated from the Western Provinces, for which there has been





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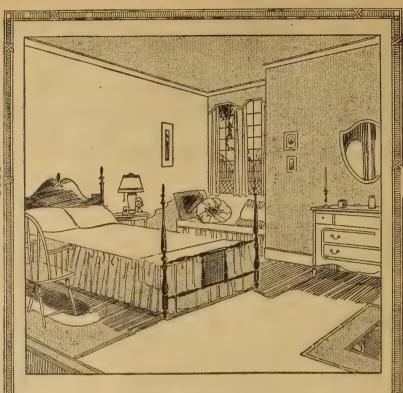
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Light Draft and Great Capacity.

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practically no compensation, or at least no adequate compensation.

I am not pressing this as any claim of the Prairie Provinces, as much as an indication of the danger of considering the claims of one section of the Dominion, without full consideration of all the sections

What happened when the new Provinces were created is quite evident. The Dominion made a departure from the basis adopted at confederation and withheld the natural resources from the Prairie Provinces. The Dominion made a new arrangement with the Provinces, which included in addition to certain money grants in lieu of the resources, a continuation of the revenue upon what was known as the "school lands." The Maritimes have no claim upon that revenue.

D. The Duncan report recommends increased subsidies for the Maritime Provinces because of the financial condition of the three Maritime Provinces.

That may be a good argument for increased subsidies for all the Provinces, but not for special treatment for the Maritime Provinces. The figures I quote here are not quite up to date, but are taken from the last Dominion year book and include the records of 1925. The combined deficits of the three Maritime Province Governments for the years 1921-25 were \$750,000; for the Province of Alberta for the same time, over \$3,000,000, and for the three Prairie Provinces for the same period \$7,500,000, and for the Province of Ontario \$17,600,000,000.

The total Provincial Debts of the three Maritime Provinces is \$62,162,000, with an indirect debt of \$1,167,000. The total debts of the three Prairie Provinces is \$233,000,000, with an indirect debt of \$92,522,000. The debt of the Province of Alberta is more than twice that of the three Maritime Provinces combined.

Let us take tax burdens, for Provincial purposes. The records show a per capita burden as follows: P.E.I., \$8.42; Nova Scotia, \$10.23; New Brunswick, \$9.33; All Canada, \$13.88; Saskatchewan, \$15.36; Alberta, \$16.50; Manitoba, \$16.89 and British Columbia \$34.85.

Nova Scotia is the only Province which has no direct taxation in the form of Provincial income tax or supplementary revenue taxation.

But unfair as is suggestion for special treatment, even more serious is the recommendation of the Duncan commission for a blanket reduction in railway rates in one section of the country, upon all railways, public and private, the reduction to be borne by all the people of Canada. This is a violation of many of the principles underlying the public ownership and public operation of railways. Even more exasperating is the recommendation favoring bounties on certain manufacturing and suggesting additional tariff restrictions. But consideration of the details of these recommendations must be reserved for a subsequent article.

### PRAIRIE UNION LOCAL

Special music by the Pitman Orchestra was a feature of a recent meeting of Prairie Union Local recently, which was addressed by E. Bennion, of Magrath. Mr. Bennion dwelt on the possibilities for achievement of the Farmers' organization. Mr. Holroyd spoke on copper carbonate treatment of seed wheat for smut. Mrs. T. A. Carlson was present and effected organization of a new U.F.W.A. Local.

## The U.F.W.A. and the Junior Branch

### EDUCATION AND THE ORGANIZED WORKER

(By Leona R. Barritt)

The editor of The U.F.A. has kindly given me space for a series of short articles on a subject that is arousing a great deal of interest in the Province at the present time; namely, the system of education and the special problems of the rural districts. This interest is very encouraging, and shows that the workers in this country are not behind the workers of the lands in their realization of the need country are not behind the workers of other lands in their realization of the need of education if the structure, whose foun-dation is being laid today on what we hope and believe is a "firm and ample base," shall go on to a completion which will be the fulfillment of their dreams.

will be the fulfillment of their dreams.

There seems to be an evolutionary process in education which is inseparable from all great economic and political movements. As the Trades Union movement in Great Britain progressed, the members found themselves sadly handicapped in their fight, because of their lack of training and education. Their opponents had the advantage of weapons which the majority of the workers did not possess—culture, and a store of information which they were unable to confute, false though it might be. Then arose a desire for Worker's Colleges.

### Labor Founds Own Colleges

In the initial stages the work was carried on in connection with the universities, and we have the founding of Ruskin College at Oxford in 1903. But not satisfied with the large measure of control which the university exercised, and also with the kind of Economics taught—the Economics and Sociology of the rich and leisured—a section broke away and established a Labor College over which the workers should have control. In Great Britain today there are three great Workers' Educational Societies; and impartial observers say that these have wrought a great social change in the British Isles. Further, they tell us that if England ever succeeds in solving her social problem without revolution, it will be largely through these agencies, for will be largely through these agencies, for they form the intellectual foundation of the Labor Party.

the Labor Party.

A slower, though similar, evolution is taking place in the American Labor movement. The organized workers with vision are decided that more education there must be, and a different education, if American Labor is to assume its true place in the social order; consequently we find Workers' Classes and Workers' Courses organized all over the country.

It was this sense of necessity, combined with true patriotism, broad culture, and wide vision, that led to the founding of the Danish Folk High Schools—a type of school which is the model for agricultural countries all over the world, and of which I shall have a good deal to say later. which I shall have a good deal to say later. In Alberta, causes are at work right now, which, if we have the intelligence, will lead us to take the road which Denmark has trodden before us; viz., to establish a new kind of school for the adolescent rural youth which will be our strongest ally, and which will carry to its completion the

(Continued on Page 30)



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### NEWS AND VIEWS OF THE WHEAT POOL

(Continued from Page 12)

The Indian Wheat acreage this year is 31,184,000 acres. Last year it was 30,470,000 acres.

Owing to the poor quality of Argentine Wheat from the southern provinces the test weight per bushel for contract grades has been lowered from the equivalent of about 58 pounds to about 56 pounds per bushel.

Canadian wheat was quoted in Liverpool recently at \$1.74 per bushel. The quotation compares very favorably with the prices of \$1.48 and \$1.50 for Argentine and United States winter wheat respectively, quoted on the same day.

No. 2 soft winter wheat sold recently in St. Louis for \$1.31 per bushel. United States millers are paying only 31c over the May option for No. 2 hard red winter wheat containing 13 per cent protein. Premiums for hard red spring wheat in Premiums for hard red spring wheat in the United States are very much lower now than formerly. No. 1 dark northern containing 13 per cent. protein is selling for only 4 cents above the May option. In the past few years the premiums on the same type of wheat have been several times as high. times as high.

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics recently revised their estimate of wheat production in 1926 on the Prairies. The revised figure is 383,440,000 bushels.

Exports of wheat and flour from North America from July 1 to March 16, 1927, were 340,873,000 bushels, as compared with 278,181,000 bushels for the corresponding period during 1925-26 and 339,395,000 bushels during 1924-25.

### WHAT POOL PAYMENT MEANS

"The other day the Wheat Pools made "The other day the Wheat Pools made a payment of twenty-seven million dollars. If any ordinary commercial firm paid out that amount of money by way of dividend or stock issue the fact would attract wide attention. The Pools made the payment without any fire works, simply as a matter of everyday business. More important than the amount is the fact that payment was made opportunely, the wheat grower receiving his money fact that payment was made opportunely, the wheat grower receiving his money just when he needed it to finance spring operations. The Pool has a sensible and businesslike method of making interim payments—they come just when the farmer needs money most, in the spring when cash is required to put in the crop and again at the end of July when harvesting operations must be financed."—The Nor'-West Farmer.

### CROPS AT FORT VERMILION

Twenty-three farmers in the Fort Vermilion district, in the far northwestern part of Alberta, 650 miles straight north of the international boundary, last year raised a total of 9,200 bushels of wheat and 13,000 bushels of oats. Their average for wheat was 25½ bushels, and for oats the average was 36½ bushels per acre. They also had an average yield of barley of 30 bushels to the acre. This is the farthest north point in Alberta raising grain, and is some 200 miles farther north than the farm of Herman Trelle on which was raised the world's Trelle on which was raised the world's champion wheat and oats of 1926.

### THE MEN WHO WAIT

The heads of the Grain Trade bait their traps

With a few cents a bushel-enough for some chaps

Who drive past the Pool to the house up the street

And get straight grade for sprouted, tough wheat,

While the men who stand in the snow and wait

To consign their loads at a lower rate Will reap the trust of all who fight Along with them for the farmer's right.

The men who stand in the snow and wait Are not to be bluffed by a ten-cent bait; They knew the price when they left home, From the grain exchange by radiophone. They know that the profits made on grain Never before came home again; And when the next sign-up is on You'll see their names, each mother's son.

They know it pays to co-operate, These men who stand in the snow and wait They've seen each fall, grain prices drop, Ere the Pool bought up the Sask, Co-op. But they have faith, and daily pray For the poor lost souls who are still astray And hope to make them see the light-To sign each one a contract right, And get, like other sons of toil, A decent living, off the soil.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE.

It is very dangerous to use damp grain for seed without having it tested for germination. The excessive moisture in damp wheat causes excessive respiration which frequently results in heating. Grain which is bin-burned will not germinate. Grain which has been damp for some time has not the vitality of dry grain. Farmers who are planning to use damp or very tough grain for seed should not fail to have it tested. In fact it is good business to have all grain to be used for seed tested, whether it is damp or not.

WHEAT POOL LOCALS
Two more Wheat Pool locals were organized recently:
Longridge Wheat Pool Local, No. 5C4,
Secretary, A. Peterson, Holden; Chairman, E. J. Christianson, Holden.
Mountain Peak Wheat Pool Local No.
4B3: Secretary, Samuel P. Hunter,
Claresholm; Chairman, A. C. Little,
Stavelv. Stavely.

### KITSCOTY LOCAL IS VERY ACTIVE

The following is taken from a letter just received from Mr. H. P. Bott, Secretary of the Kitscoty Pool Local: "Although there was one of the worst blizzards of the winter on March 8th, the day Mr. Jackman addressed a public Wheat Pool meeting in the Town Hall. Kitscoty, there were about a hundred present, which shows the interest taken in the Pool in this district, as it was an awful day; otherwise there would have been a full house. After the address, quest ons were asked and answered by Mr. Jackman, to everyone's satisfaction."

Mr. Jackman, to everyone's satisfaction."
"RESOLVED that we, the members of
the Alberta Co-operative Wheat Producers, Ltd., in the Kitscoty District in convention assembled, do hereby endorse the management of the Wheat Pool and our satisfaction with the operation of same and do here express our determination to renew our contracts for another five years. CARRIED."

### SEND IN COUPONS

Members should be sure that their Delivery Checking Coupons are sent to head office in order to secure the interim payment. Sign these coupons before sending them in.

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The U.S. Department of Agriculture has issued a statement suggesting that the report of farmers intentions to plant an additional acreage of cereal crops as compared with last year is not justified by the market and consumptive situation.

### -----WHEAT POOL MEETINGS

Meetings will be addressed at the following points by C. Jensen, director for the Lethbridge district, and H. C. McDaniel of the U.F.A.:

Daniel of the U.F.A.:

Seven Persons, Monday, 4th April, 8
p.m. Bowell, Tuesday, 5th April, 2 p.m.
Irvine Valley, Tuesday, 5th April, 8 p.m.
Pashley, Wednesday, 6th April, 2 p.m.
Norton, Wednesday, 6th April, 8 p.m.
Manyberries, Thursday, 7th April, 2 p.m.
Comrey, Thursday, 7th April, 2 p.m.
Orion, Friday, 8th April, 2 p.m.
Four
Nine School, Friday, 8th April, 8 p.m.
Etzikom, Saturday, 9th April, 2 p.m.
Burlington School, Saturday, 9th April, 8 p.m.
8 p.m.

8 p.m. W. J. Jackman, Director for the Ed-monton district, will address a meeting at:

Boyle, Tuesday, 5th April, 8 p.m. Athabasca, Thursday, 7th April, 2:30 p.m.

### MEETINGS WELL ATTENDED

Wheat Pool meetings at Hope Valley Heath and Sligo were well attended, according to a letter from Food M. Ford, Heath. As Mr. Jackman could not be present, L. Nesbitt and W. MacLeod, of the Wheat Pool staff, substituted very acceptably. "These visits of members of the staff will do much to create a feeling of closer relationship between the office and the Pool signers, which will reflect in greater satisfaction generally throughout the country with the Pool operation," concludes Mr. Ford.

### VALUE OF ACTIVE U. F. A. LOCALS

"Our district is realizing by comparison with better-organized districts that there is real value in an active and enthusiastic U.F.A. Local," writes Wm. Sheldrake, secretary of Duchess Local. "Our membership shows every indication of going over the top this year, thanks to assistance in signing up new members by the old reliables."

### PROTEST REDUCTION OF INCOME TAX

\_\_\_\_\_

Resolutions were passed at the last meeting of Magloire Local protesting against the reduction in the Income Tax, and opposing the cancellation by the railways of free transportation service to attendants on livestock shipments.

### \_\_\_\_ HAMILTON REORGANIZED

Following an address by A. F. Aitken, of the U.F.A. Central Executive, reorganization of the Hamilton Local, near Mannville, was effected. John Clark and John Hawley were elected officers.

### SEED GRAIN FOR SALE

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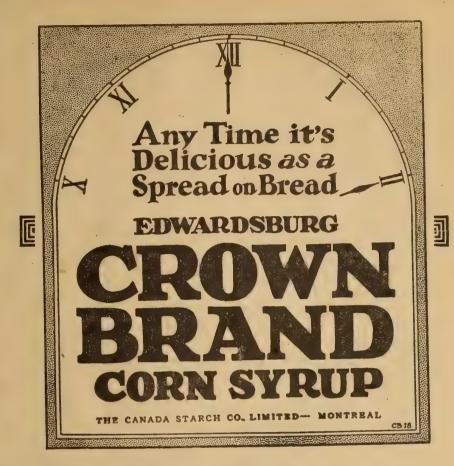
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Farmers who realize the value of "Good Tilth"—the proper working of the land for the seed bed-will get good crops because the seed has been given a chance to send down strong roots into a finely pulverized soil where the moisture has been properly conserved.

Cockshutt Disc Harrows are strongly built of high carbon steel. The Discs are sharp and clean cutting; levers for controlling the sections are easy to reach and to use. Bearings are dust proof and well lubricated. Exceptionally light

Cockshutt Spike and Spring Tooth Harrows are made in a variety of styles and sizes. They give splendid service.



The Cockshutt line of Harrows is complete and meets every need. Includes Tractor Double Disc Harrows, Light Double Disc Harrows, big 14ft. Disc Harrows, Spike and Spring Tooth Smoothing Harrows, Our nearest dealer will gladly show you the line, or write our nearest branch for catalogue.

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### COCKSHUTT PLOW COMPANY LIMITED

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"Cockshutt Implements Make Farming Pay Better"

(Continued from Page 8) Smoky River-Peace River-No Man's Land and what not, highways and by-ways of the north, came to the conclusion that as the A. & G. W. railway led to the gateway of the North West Territories no other railway in Canada had more claim to be a purely Federal road than that. Province should at least be relieved of the bonded debt on that road, amounting to \$7,200,000. It had been suggested that the county system be introduced in Alberta. If this were done, while it might relieve the Province, the taxpayer would find no difference, as had been witnessed in the U.S.A., where Federal debt reductions had been offset by State and County increases. Touching on the expensive overhead created by overlap-ping Dominion, Provincial and Municipal police services, Mr. McKeen gave figures showing approximately the amount ex-pended by the several bodies on policing the Province. He argued for a consolidation of these services, bringing all activities under one head, and enumerated the possible saving to the taxpayer if that were done. He advocated the appointment of a house committee to survey this matter.

### PREMIER BROWNLEE TAKES THE FLOOR

J. E. Brownlee, Premier, adopting the prosaic rather than the humorously poetic this time, seriously considered the statements of the opposition. He had not intended to take part in this, the first budget debate after an election, but misleading arguments of members opposite had compelled him to take part. sorry that his previous poetic allusions, spoken in the utmost spirit of jest, had been misinterpreted, and he hastened to apply the soothing balm if that were

possible.

The Premier eulogised the endeavor of D. M. Duggan, member for Edmonton, whose critical analysis of the financial position of the Province was the one really valuable contribution to the debate. He agreed with the member for Edmonton as to the far-reaching effects of a budget speech. But the speech itself was not the only phase which was far reachingthe criticisms of members of the house were also of the same far-reaching nature. and statements to the effect that the Province was in a "financial morass" and "up to the neck in the slough of financial despond," and "we will soon be submerged" would not be confined to the Assembly but would be broadcast to the utmost bounds of civilization. He had received a letter recently on that subject from overseas which had convinced him of the far-reaching effect of such kind of criticism. It did seem somewhat inconsistent to him to find leaders advocating in one breath the need for immigration, and in the next, slandering the condition of the country to which they would have immigrants come.

### CONTRAST BETWEEN TWO CONSERVATIVES

In a manner which baffles description, Mr. Brownlee contrasted the speeches of the member from Edmonton (Mr. Duggan) with those of his "peerless leader." He extended sympathy for the manner in which the leader had treated the observations of the member. Hardly had the member enunciated his policy with regard to the revenue from liquor when the leader had followed with a restatement of the policy. Mr. Brownlee said he was glad, however, in view of the fact that in the not distant future they would have to face anew the question of liquor control,

that the leader had stated clearly the policy of the Conservative party, and he was indebted to him for that

Mr. Duggan, who had been a student of financial matters for many years, who had been chief executive of the city of Edmonton, and who was the only participant in the debate who had proved himself qualified to analyse the financial position, had made the statement that "when the Government took office in 1921 it was faced with a financial condi tion which had no parallel in the history of any Province in Canada, owing to the commitments of its predecessors." Mr McGillivray's contribution had been that "this Government must stand on its own

Mr. Duggan, who was able to analyse the situation, stated that this Government had reduced controllable expenditure while in office. Mr. McGillivray, after accusing this Government of coining that word, said: "Controllable. What does it mean? It is merely a smoke screen."

Mr. Duggan had said that he had every

Mr. Duggan had said that he had every confidence in the future of the Alberta railways as he knew they were in reasonably safe hands. Mr. McGillivray had followed with the criticism regarding the railways that the Government had been incompetent, and incompetent and incompetent.

railways that the Government had been incompetent and inefficient, helplessly groping like babes in the wood.

The Premier had been disappointed, though, at the conclusions arrived at by Mr. Duggan. Listening on the Friday to the first part of his speech he had been impressed by the careful, painstaking analysis made by the member from Edmonton, and he had found himself asking what would be his conclusions. In view of the fact that Mr. Duggan was a member who by experience was well a member who by experience was well a member who by experience was well able to form an opinion, who had had opportunity to study the question, and who must be in a position to suggest a course of action, he had been keenly disappointed when on Monday the member had nothing tangible to offer as a solution.

### SHOULD HAVE SHOWN WHERE CUTTING POSSIBLE

The only suggestion made was that an arbitrary decision to reduce capital expenditures to \$1,500,000, and a reduction of \$1,000,000 in current expenditure, one half of which was to be turned over to relieve municipalities, and the other half to be placed in sinking fund. The Premier could offer Mr. Duggan no congratulations on his offered solution.
Mr. Duggan should not have made a suggestion of that nature without taking the estimates and showing just where cutting could be done so as to spend less than the amounts suggested. With regard to capital, there were really two services which would need capital borrowings this year—highways and railways. In view of Mr. Duggan having expressed approval of the Minister of Public Works' program for this year, there was only the railway left. Was Mr. Duggan, the Premier asked, prepared to go to the people of the north country and tell them that the proper thing to do was to let the railway needs go this year as it was necessary to reduce the borrowings by \$1,000,-000?

With regard to current expenditure, where could the million be cut from? One might reduce even to the extent of two millions, but this could not be reduced one iota without cutting down services which would entail great sacrifice on the people of the Province.

The other speeches were not worth consideration. They were of the usual

type—deploring increased expenditures; lack of information; and lots of other things which Mr. Brownlee enumerated. The usual silly method of asking a reduction and at the same time demanding

### "ECQNOMISTS" WHO DEMAND MORE EXPENDITURE

Take for example the leader of the Liberals. He demanded reduction of expenditures and taxation. At the same time he introduced a bill into the Assembly without asking if it passed that it would cost the Province a matter of two or three hundred thousand dollars. same side of the Assembly wanted rail-way extension of the L. & N.W. to Edmonton to go hand in hand with reduction. The trouble was that these speeches had been largely academic, reducing things to a per capita basis, without making a fair analysis. There were three or four points which should always be considered in making comparisons between Provinces. Was there any special obligation which one Province had which the other did not have? What services or assets are included in the capital charges of one Province not included in the other? What is the nature of the different phases, community of interest, topography, etc.? and what was the relationship to the Dominion on a revenue basis?

Alberta and B.C. had railway commitments, Saskatchewan had none. Saskatchewan had only s mall telephone system, capitalised at \$10,000,000. Alberta had planned to put the phone in every corner of the Province. Saskatchewan only a very small system, but the taxpayers locally had to pay very high taxes because of their tele-phone system. Saskatchewan was a rural Province with little diver-sity of interest. Alberta had coal mining, a topography which, for instance, meant the maintenance of thirty more police than one having the terrain of Saskatchewan. There were other things of similar

Consider the relationship to the Dominion. Saskatchewan has some Dominion. Saskatchewan has some 200,000 more people. Grants for land, legislation, and population (80 cents per head) brought large amounts more to Saskatchewan than Alberta. Grants from school lands to Saskatchewan amounted to 100 per cent more. What could be done in Alberta with regard to education if she had that three or four hundred thousand more? If Alberta's population increased by 200,000 it would mean another million dollars. million dollars.

Mr. Duggan feared the day when Alberta's public debt would reach the \$100,000,000 mark. That the member thought would spell disaster. The premier counselled the Assembly to watch British Columbia, whose public debt would reach that figure in very few years, and see what the effect would be. and see what the effect would be.

### THE \$27,000,000 INCREASE IN DEBT

The Government had been berated because the public debt had been increased by 27 million dollars. Mr. Brownlee analysed what entered into that sum to show how it had been spent and why. Nine millions had been spent on railways, maintenance and so forth, together with interest charges. The Lethbridge Northern had taken another \$1,300,000; the telephone system in Saskatchewan was only ten millions, and

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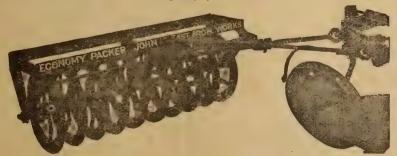
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Help Your Paper! When Buying from Advertisers in "U.F.A."— Tell Where You Saw the Ad. their public debt, less this amount was \$46,846,000; Alberta's debt was 84 millions, less railways 20 millions and telephones 22 millions, but inclusive of the irrigation the total was 43 million dollars with reductions which put it on a fair basis of comparison with Saskatchewan. Saskatchewan's per capita was 75 dollars and Alberta's 138.9 dollars, and with reductions of the services not included in each Province the per capita was Saskatchewan 61.5, Alberta 72.2.

The Premier then reviewed the assets which these sums represented, public buildings, telephones, railways, irrigation, university, the latter being a sum of \$3,800,000 which had formerly been an indirect liability but had been transferred to the direct liability column, and miscellaneous.

The Premier denied that the public debt had increased at the rate of 5 million dollars a year for the past five years. He gave the figures to show the actual amounts.

The reason why 5 millions had been spent on highways in 1926 was to qualify for the Canada subvention, and this would mean a refund of the greater portion of that amount.

# MONEY BORROWED MUST BE REPAID

Coming back to controllable expenditures, the Premier analysed the obligations to find if the use of the words "controllable" and "uncontrollable" were justified. Was the repayment and interest of previous borrowings controllable or not? If money had been borrowed was there any one in the Assembly would say that the repayments need not be cared for? Some day there might be some kind of new financial system but facing things as they are, the fair statement was that a Government had power to say: "We shall not borrow"—that was controllable, but where borrowing had already been done, the Government had no alternative than to repay principal and interest—that was uncontrollable.

Another phase was that of semi-controllable expenditure. Services like the sanatorium at Keith and the mental hospitals were stressed for more accommodation due to the increase of patients. The Cabinet had decided to hold over the need for building this year, but the Premier was as sure as he was in the Assembly at that moment, that next year's estimates would have an item of approximatly \$600,000 for accommodation at these institutions.

# OVER MILLION REDUCTION CONTROLLABLE EXPENDITURE

Deducting the uncontrollable expenditures from the total there had been a reduction of over one million in the public debt. Mr. Brownlee quoted from speeches by Premier Gardiner showing Saskatchewan up against the same problems. Ten years ago this Province did not have a police force, nor mothers' allowances, neglected children act, minimum wage act, nor any of the other humanitarian, social and economic measures. At the same rate of growth the next five years would still further increase expenditures for this growing Province. The only regret the Premier had in regard to the administration of the last few years was that they had been forced to pare expenditures until it had hurt. It had been no pleasant task, and it was going to take a wise government to keep expenditures within bounds without causing injury in the future.

Mr. Brownlee pointed out that it was necessary to plan to help the people as well as the Government to solve financial problems. He recited what had been done with regard to seed grain and relief, the figures covering which were given by Mr. Hoadley the other day. Affairs of the rural people were at a low ebb, and it had been necessary to grant further of the rural people were at a low ebb, and it had been necessary to grant further relief in 1922, after which it had been discontinued. Then the dry area legislation and afterwards the Debt Adjustment Acts had to be enacted, and the Premier said the situation was improving so rapidly that before long the mortgage men would not find it necessary to cry about the priority of seed grain and relief over first mortgages.

It was useless to talk immigration while

thousands of our people were getting up and going to the states, so it had been decided to provide for the moving of settlers to better areas. Sixteen hundred and eight families had thus been saved to the Province, and were now making good in a new location, and they had yet to hear of any dissatisfaction from

those moved. With regard to the Lethbridge-Northern and railways and telephones, Mr. Brownlee felt assured that before long they would be making repayments to the Government and would become revenue producing.

Mr. Duggan's contention that the cities should have more claim on the finances of the Province was a burning question in all the Provinces; the Premier thought that the cities were suffering from the same disease as the Province, overcapitalisation for the population and the consequent heavy overhead. No solution would be found for this until a complete readjustment of the relationship between Provinces and the Dominion and Provinces and the cities was made and for the control of the cities was made and for the cities and the cities and the cities are provinced that the cities are the cities and the cities are cities and control of the cities are cities and cities are cities are cities and cities are cities and cities are cities and cities are cities and cities are cities are cities are cities are cities and cities are cities are cities are cities and cities are cities and cities are cities a inces and the cities was made, and for this purpose the Government had ap-pointed the Dr. Tory Commission.

# R. G. Reid Closes Debate In Telling Speech

"Forgetting the Mortgage" Will Not Provide Solution of Either Individual or Provincial Finance Problem,

### THURSDAY'S SITTING

EDMONTON, March 24.—Debate on the budget terminated this afternoon, after a week's speechifying, after which the Assembly proceeded to take up the slack of the routine work.

### PROVINCES NOT EQUAL IN 1921

R. G. Reid, Provincial Treasurer, in closing the debate said that the ground had been covered so completely by the Premier and those who preceded him that there was little to do but clean up a few

there was little to do but clean up a few minor details, some of which would seem scarcely worthy of consideration. It had been pointed out that the comparisons between Provinces was largely futile, and he added that although the Provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan had started out equal at their inception, they had not been equal in 1921.

Mr. Reid said the Province had been in the position similar to that of an individual who had inherited a property on which was a mortgage, and that afterfive years the individual should take the stand that they should forget the mortgage. That, said the Treasurer, was not a solution, although a newspaper suggested that sind of procedure as a solution for the Provincial debt. An individual might be able to find a way to

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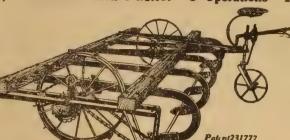
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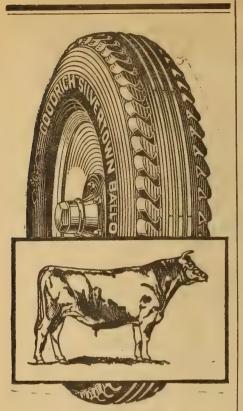
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# IS THIS GOOD BUSINESS?

Mr. Reid illustrated this in lucid manner by asking the question—if the property of the mortgagee was valued at \$100,000.00, and it had a mortgage of \$25,000 on it, would it be good business to borrow a further sum of \$25,000 to put it in shape for business and get it on a paying basis? All the borrowings of the present Government had been made with just that end in view and for the last five years had been for developmental purposes.

Mr. Duggan had built up a good case up until a certain point, then his deductions had not been sound. In his tables giving the figures dealing with the increase in public debt he had included total capital expenditure without deducting estimated capital receipts. Had he done so, the increase of \$10 per head from 1926 until 1927 stated by him would have been seen to be only \$4 per head.

Mr. Duggan had made reference to liquor profits. The statement that "booze balanced the budget" could be used of almost any item included in a balance sheet. It could have been said of slot machines, it could have been said of anything, but the Treasurer said he wanted to point out that for years before approximately one million dollars a year revenue had been received from liquor.

### SAVINGS TO THE CITIES

Dealing with the burden of the cities, touched on by the member from Edmonton, it had been made to appear that the city had had burdens imposed but had never had any relief at all from forms of taxation.

The Minister pointed out that with regard to such institutions as the sanatarium at Keith there had been a reduction of charges from \$3 to \$1 per patient, per day, making a saving to the municipalities of \$75,000 a year, and if the estimates are lived up to this year there will be a saving of some \$95,000 in that respect.

Mr. Reid complimented Mr. Duggan because he appreciated the difficulty of his task in endeavoring to analyse the situation in order to find something with which to confront this Government. Mr. Duggan knew that his economy cry was not applicable. No one eonversant with the facts as was Mr. Duggan, could

assume that this Government had net practiced economy. The Minister contended that the people in the Province knew better than that, and he said there had never been an election fought in this Province when the people were so thoroughly informed on these matters, and it would not be wise for the opposition to fool themselves about that.

# FOR PEOPLE WHOSE MEMORIES ARE SHORT

Economies had been effected on every hand. Take printing and advertising for instance. In 1921, \$84,000 had been spent in advertising; in 1925, \$25,000. For printing, \$348,000 in 1921; \$216,000 in 1925; a saving in printing alone of \$156,000. The only excuse for quoting these figures was because some people's memories were so short. Economy was not a thing which this Government was called upon to face for the first time. They had practised economy all along the line.

the line.

Mr. Reid said that Capt. Shaw had made the statement that the Treasurer had not presented the statement of uncontrollable, semi-controllable, and controllable expenditures this year, remarking that there was "a grave reason why it could be done." The minister thought that there was a possibility of repeating a thing too often, and if he did so the house would excuse it as he only repeated it to satisfy Mr. Shaw. "So far from the statement being one of which I am ashamed," said the Minister, "it is to me a thing of pride."

The minister reading the statement showed that there were still increases in the uncontrollable expenditures; they were still holding the semi-controllable down to the level of 1922 when reductions began to be made in the yearly appro-

The minister reading the statement showed that there were still increases in the uncontrollable expenditures; they were still holding the semi-controllable down to the level of 1922 when reductions began to be made in the yearly appropriations; but when they came to the controllable they found that steady decreases had been made from 1922 down to the low level in 1924; this year it had increased slightly, being about \$80,000 more than last year owing to the election costs amounting to \$137,766.02 being included.

After giving the tables the Minister remarked, "There, the statement is now out in the full light of day for everyone to look at."

The comparison made by Mr. Shaw, under the head, "Where does the dollar go to?" was a little unfortunate, as the member himself had made a qualifying statement. The situation was different, and hard to make a fair comparison. Alberta's debt was shown in one state-

### STATEMENT OF CONTROLLABLE, SEMI-CONTROLLABLE, AND UN--CONTROLLABLE EXPENDITURES (INCOME ACCOUNT) FOR THE YEARS 1921-1926 INCLUSIVE.

Year	Uncontrollable	Accumulated Increase	Semi- Controllable	Accumulated Increase
1921	2,095,157.97		3,884,315.57	
1922	2,998,609.52	903,451.55	4,123,522.54	239,206.97
1923	3.425.547.78	1,330,389.81	3,976,858.59	146,663.95
1924	3,789,334,75	1.694.176.78	3,844,276.75	132,581.84
1925	3,901,029.96	1,805,871.99	3,995,688.69	111,373.12
1926	4,207,674.96	2,112,516.99	4,161,576.72	277,261.15
	Controllable	Accumulated Decrease	`	
1921	4,625,682,37			
1922	4,113,060.16	512,622.21		
1923	3,588,423.63	1,037,258.74		
1924	3,493,857.05	1,131,825.32		
1925	3,446,287.80	1,179,394.57		
1926	*3,524,076.06	1,101,606.31		
	*Includes election	n expense of \$13	7,766.02 for 1926.	

ment, whereas that of Saskatchewan was spread all over the accounts. In the Province of Alberta, public debt absorbed 35 per cent of revenue, while in Saskatchewan the figure is 19; for education, Alberta spends 18 per cent and Saskatchewan 30; administration of justice showed only a fraction of difference, the rate being Alberta, 14.666 and Saskatchewan 14.654. For development purposes Saskatchewan spent 73 per cent but the fact was that in this was included capital debt charges, and if the exact comparison was made, taking that into consideration, was made, taking that into consideration, the figures were Alberta, 5.4, Saskatchewan, 5.2; public welfare, Alberta 13, Saskatchewan 15; highways, Alberta 4.5, Saskatchewan 4.5. So that it was found that the Province of Saskatchewan while being in a more favorable position than Alberta in some respects, was not in nearly the favorable position depicted.

Mr. Duggan had remarked that he had Mr. Duggan had remarked that he had heard a financial expert in a meeting in the East use the words, "When will the Western Provinces cease to borrow money?" and Mr. Reid said that he was sure the gentleman was hoping in his heart that it would be a long, long time. The financial standing of this Province the financial standing of this Province was sought for, surely, the Minister thought, none better could be found than the fact that on the money markets of the world Alberta bonds stand higher than ever in its history.

The budget speeches terminated and

the question put, being carried without

## Gibbs Caustic in Reply to Attack of J. T. Shaw

Quotes Shaw's Own Words in Support of Charge that Parties Represent Vested Interests—Sterilization Bill Given First Reading

### FRIDAY'S SITTING

EDMONTON, March 25.—The debate on the budget having been concluded it was thought naturally that we had seen the last of the Mohicans, that is, of the full dress debates prevalent up to this period. A resolution dealing with medical inspection of immigrants at the point of embarkation by Canadian medicoca, introduced by George Hoadley, gave rise to a little flutter for a period before receiving unanimous approval, but the spice of life was injected into the decaying enthusiasm of the overworked members during the discussion of an ordinary, plain everyday measure. No one would have dreamt that the Assembly sat over such a death dealing volcano.

This is how it happened. The bill introduced by

sembly sat over such a death dealing volcano.

This is how it happened. The bill introduced by Mr. Duggan proposing to amend the Public Utilities Act had been brought up for second reading.

C. L. Gibbs, Edmonton, (Labor), had risen to speak. Our readers will remember that the other evening during the absence of Mr. Gibbs, the leader of the Liberals had resented the former's reference to the "Big Interests" whose substance was down east but whose shadow was cast on the Western Provinces. Mr. Shaw had taken that so much to beart that he accused the Labor member of using wessel words and of boring holes through the atmosphere to find a vacant-place on the treasury benches.

### "A MATTER NOT UNRELATED TO NATURAL GAS"

TO NATURAL GAS"

Well, the member for Edmonton started out by saying that before he came to the question of the Edmonton gas contract he would like to make a passing reference to a matter not unrelated to natural gas. He referred to the unusual attack made upon himself while absent last Tuesday, by Mr. Shaw.

"When the hon, member accuses me of fawning flattery towards the Government, he is exaggerating," said Mr. Gibbs. "It is no great flattery to say that I have more confidence in the Farmer group than in the member from Bow Valley. Why, the people themselves said the same thing last June—except perhaps the single misguided Conservative voter who had on 'second thoughts' inflicted the hon, gentleman en this Assembly."

By this time the members of the Assembly sat transfixed. The Labor member went on. He remarked that Mr. Shaw had accused him of looking for a vacant place on the Treasury benches. "If I were ooking for a vacancy anywhere," he said, or for the

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DENT SORTS	
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'nobody home' sign in this House, I should look in quite a different direction."

By this time the teeth of everyone had been set on edge, but no one dared to raise a point of order. The Labot orator went on, saying that every fair-minded member would realise that the attack had been neither fair nor sportsmanlike. He was not the least bit afraid of criticism, but he wanted it to be logical rather than pathological. He said that in order to secure the particular insult to hurl, the leader had gone down into his own subconsciousness to find there some ranking experiences of his own.

Mr. Gibbs said that it was intended that he should be humiliated, but he was still in the ring, and felt in no wise cast down. To the charge that he was the champion of humanitarianism he pleaded guilty. So long as he was in that Assembly he would always place human interests shead of property interest or anything else for that matter.

"If anyone should be humiliated, it is the gentleman who bartered his one-time independence for the mess of pottage of the Liberal leadership," went on Mr. Gibbs. This was too much for Mr. Shaw. No one else raising the question of order the leader sprang to his own defence. "I protest, Mr. Speaker. I deny that I made any barter or anything of that nature."

"I applogise, Sir," said the Labor member, "to the

nature."

'1 apologise, Sir," said the Labor member, "to the leader, seeing what a mess he is making of it."

Mr. Gibbs proceeded to say that Mr. Shaw accused him of having said that the two old parties represented the vested interests of the East. He admitted that he had said so. The Labor people had always said so, aye, from every platform in the Province. "If the hon. gentleman is going to get white hot every time he hears this charge he will be in a state of incandescence till the end of time."

# SHAW'S OWN WORDS STRONGEST CONDEMNATION

SHAW'S OWN WORDS
STRONGEST CONDEMNATION

The Assembly sat breathless when the Labor member came to the next item.

"Anything I may have said is mild compared to what the honorable gentleman himself said before his conversion. This is what he said in 1921:

"The result is that up to the time of the war substantially we had in Canada two parties, each arrogating to themselves the right to govern. There was a constant struggle between these parties, between the ins and the outs. The result has been that both parties have found it necessary to organize and create a machine for the purpose of maintaining and enforcing their particular desires. It is also true, to the shame of our country, that this party machine has required campaign contributions, usually secured we know not from where, but I presume from vested interests who were expecting some favor of some kind. The result has been that the standard of our politica." has been that the standard of our politica! has been towered, and graft, corruption and electional abuses of various kinds have followed in its wake."

The Labor member said he never had said anything more condemnatory than that. Besides he had never accused the honorable leader of representing the vested interests. "He is only on probation. The vested interests are too shrewd to place implicit confidence in the leader until he has convinced them of the sincerity of his recent conversion."

(The discussion on a bill to provide for the sterilisation of the mentally unfit, on a resolution dealing with the examination of immigrants, and various other matters discussed at Friday's session will be published next week .- Editor.)

(Continued from Page 21)

work which we, the pioneers of a new rural life, have begun.

Here are some of the indications. In the last five or six years we find large numbers of boys and girls taking grade IX, in the public school, and getting X and XI of the High School course as best they can, in districts where formerly grade VIII was regarded as a more or less enviable achievement. In addition, a desire for subjects other than the tra-ditional ones is making itself manifest. We have asked for, and gotten, Economics; we are now asking that co-operation be included in the course. All this points to what?—an overcrowded course in the to what?—an overcrowded course in the public and high schools, as impracticable, from the standpoint of results, as it is impossible? Oh, no; the U.F.A. movement is too intelligent for that. It points to a new type of school.

This is as it should be; and in spite of the difficulties with which we are hedged around at present, and backward as we

around at present, and backward as we are now, the horizon is bright with the promise of a new day. With these difficulties, the way some countries have solved them, and other countries are attempting solution, I shall deal with later.

(The valuable series of articles by "U.F.W.A." will be resumed in our next issue. - Editor.)

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